

CHI RHO PRESS
P.O. Box 7864
Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Suburban MD.
Permit No. 3429

Happy Holidays from Chi Rho Press!

Chi Rho Press Order Form

Please put the number of copies you want in the line to the left of the item you wish to order and the total price for the item(s) on the line to the right. Add Shipping and Handling charges.

MY MEMORY BOOK: A Journal for Grieving Children , by Gretchen Gaines-Lane. \$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.	
CALLED OUT , edited by Jane Adams Spahr, Kathryn Poethig, Selisse Berry, and Melinda V. McLain. \$15.95 each, six or more copies for \$13.45 each.	
"THE LEAST OF THESE" , by R. Adam DeBaugh. \$2.00 each, six or more copies for \$1.50 each.	
"THIS IS WHY I SING!" by the Rev. Delores Berry Cassette Tape, \$11.00 each, Compact Disc, \$15.00 each	
GAY/LESBIAN CHRISTIAN DECAL \$3.00 each.	
POSITIVELY GAY , edited by Betty Berzon, Ph.D. \$10.95 each.	
FAMILIES RE-MEMBERED , by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. \$9.95 each, six or more copies for \$7.50 each.	
"I'M STILL DANCING!" , by the Rev. A. Stephen Pieters. \$7.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.00 each.	
TO CELEBRATE AND TO MOURN , by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. \$3.00 each, six or more copies for \$2.25 each.	
WRITING TO CONGRESS , by R. Adam DeBaugh. \$0.75 each, six or more copies for \$0.60 each.	
THE WHOLE CHURCH BODY BOOK , by Jean Gralley. \$4.00 each, six or more copies for \$3.00 each.	
WHAT A FELLOWSHIP , by Jean Gralley. \$7.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.00 each.	
THE UFMCC MISSION STATEMENT , by Virginia G. Miles and R. Adam DeBaugh. \$2.00 each, six or more copies for \$1.50 each.	
THE ROAD TO EMMAUS , the Rev. Joseph W. Houle, Editor. \$10.95 each.	
AN ALIEN IN A FOREIGN LAND , by the Rev. Jimmy Brock. \$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.	
"JESUS IS LORD OF ALL!" by Witness. Cassette Tape. \$8.00 each.	
"GOD IS GREATER" by Witness. Cassette Tape. \$8.00 each. Both Witness tapes, \$15.00.	
INVITATION TO FREEDOM , by the Rev. Dr. Rembert S. Truluck. \$6.50 each, six or more copies for \$5.00 each.	
THE BIBLE AND HOMOSEXUALITY , by the Rev. Michael E. England. \$5.50 each, six or more copies for \$4.00 each.	
LIVING WITH LOSS , by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. \$4.00 each, six or more copies for \$3.00 each.	
STAINED GLASS CROSSES \$10.00 each.	
STAINED GLASS LESBIAN/GAY RAINBOW FLAGS \$18.00 each.	
AIDS RIBBONS IN STAINED GLASS \$7.50 each.	

SUBTOTAL: \$

Add Shipping and Handling Charges, based on the Subtotal: for orders up to \$19.99 add \$2.50; for orders of \$20 to \$39.99 add \$3.50; for orders of \$40 to \$59.99 add \$4.50; for orders of \$60 to \$79.99 add \$5.50; for orders of \$80 to \$99.99 add \$6.50; for orders of \$100 or more add 7% of the order (to a maximum of \$15.00). If you choose to be invoiced, a handling charge of \$2.00 will be added to your bill. *For guaranteed 48 hour processing of your order, please add \$5.00.*

TOTAL ORDER: \$

Name: _____

Address: _____

*Mail your order and payment to Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898. Call or fax us at 301/670-1859. Our e-mail address is: **ChiRhoPrss@aol.com**. Just let us know how we can assist you. Thank you for your support!*

WHAT A FELLOWSHIP, by Jean Gralley. *Just for fun!* MCC's first cartoon book by a talented cartoonist who has been entertaining MCCers for over 20 years with her witty, clever drawings. A great gift!

\$7.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.00 each.



THE UFMCC MISSION STATEMENT, by Virginia G. Miles and R. Adam DeBaugh. A five-part booklet on the Mission Statement of the UFMCC General Council: "The UFMCC empowers people to bring Christian Salvation, Christian Community, and Christian Social Action to the world."

\$2.00 each, six or more copies for \$1.50 each.

THE ROAD TO EMMAUS: Daily Encounters with the Risen Christ -- An Inclusive Devotional, the Rev. Joseph W. Houle, Editor. A book of daily devotions with a Gospel reading and meditation for each day of the year, written by GLBT Christians. Inclusive in language, tone, and content.

\$10.95 each.

AN ALIEN IN A FOREIGN LAND, by the Rev. Jimmy Brock. Eleven sermons, which are excellent for personal or corporate devotions, the basis for Christian education classes, Bible studies, discussion groups, a guide in private meditation, or for membership classes.

\$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.

"JESUS IS LORD OF ALL!" by **Witness**, a talented Christian musical group. Witness' first album includes original songs and the old favorite, "Ten Thousand Years." A wonderful, inspirational album.

Cassette Tape, 10 selections. \$8.00 each.

"GOD IS GREATER" by **Witness**. Their second album includes "I Will Praise You Lord," "I Will Not Compromise," "All That I Am," the title song, and "Lead Me All the Way." Greatly enjoyable and inspirational listening.

Cassette Tape, 10 selections. \$8.00 each.

Both Witness tapes, now only \$15.00!

Even Our Longtime Best Sellers Are On Sale!

INVITATION TO FREEDOM: Bible Studies in Personal Evangelism, by the Rev. Dr. Rembert S. Truluck. An excellent workbook on personal evangelism which includes chapters on a number of Bible passages that explain and encourage the work of the Great Commission for everyone.

\$6.50 each, six or more copies for \$5.00 each.

THE BIBLE AND HOMOSEXUALITY, Fourth Edition, by the Rev. Michael E. England. Many thousands of this book are in circulation. Included are chapters on our understanding of "inspiration;" critical interpretation; textual, historical, source, and form criticism; detailed discussions about scripture verses used to condemn homosexuality; the "contra naturam" (against nature) argument; heterosexual marriages as the "only Biblical model;" adultery and fornication; and a bibliography.

\$5.50 each, six or more copies for \$4.00 each.

LIVING WITH LOSS: Experiencing Bereavement, with Special Attention to Hiv/Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. A wonderful basic primer on bereavement and grief, with chapters on the experience of bereavement, relationships and grief, hiv/aids and bereavement, supporting the bereaved, and an extensive bibliography.

\$4.00 each, six or more copies for \$3.00 each.

And Our Stained Glass Always Makes a Great Gift!

STAINED GLASS CROSSES are striking additions to any window. Made from five pieces of glass, seven inches high and four inches wide, these crosses are hand crafted in the copper foil and solder method. The cross has an attached loop so you may hang it in any window to catch the light and remind all of the power of our faith. Please specify preferred colors, though we may not be able to match exact shades.

\$10.00 each.

STAINED GLASS LESBIAN/GAY RAINBOW FLAGS are a solid rectangle of bright red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple glass, four inches by six inches, with two loops for hanging. The rainbow flag has become an international symbol of Gay/Lesbian Pride. Show your pride!

\$18.00 each.

AIDS RIBBONS IN STAINED GLASS are made from three pieces of red, textured glass and measure three inches high. There is a loop for hanging this fitting reminder of our concern for all those affected by the hiv/aids crisis.

\$7.50 each.

Please order directly from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.; telephone or fax us at 301/670-1859; or e-mail us at ChiRhoPrss@aol.com.

Send checks or money orders payable to Chi Rho Press. Figure shipping and handling costs based on the following:

For orders up to \$19.99 add \$2.50;
orders of \$20 to \$39.99 add \$3.50;
orders of \$40 to \$59.99 add \$4.50;

orders of \$60 to \$79.99 add \$5.50;
orders of \$80 to \$99.99 add \$6.50;
orders of \$100 or more, add 7% (maximum \$15.00).

You may choose to be invoiced, but a handling charge of \$2.00 will be added to your bill. For guaranteed 48 hour processing of your order, please add \$5.00.

Happy Holidays from Chi Rho Press!

And May 1996 Be Filled with Every Good Thing for You!



Chi Rho Press 1995 Holiday Catalog

The New Look of Chi Rho Press: New Logo, New Products



Chi Rho Press has a new look and some exciting new products! Our new logo (left) was designed for Chi Rho Press by Washington, D.C.-area calligrapher Mary Lou O'Brien. This **1995 Holiday Catalog** is your chance to do all of your Christmas shopping right here, by mail! There are five wonderful new items; plus many of our standard best sellers are at reduced sale prices just for the holidays. The sale prices are effective for orders postmarked up until Jan. 15, 1996. Quantities of some items are limited. If we are sold out of a particular item you order, a credit will be issued to you. *Happy Holidays from Chi Rho Press!*

MY MEMORY BOOK: A Journal for Grieving Children, by Gretchen Gaines-Lane, LCSW-C. For a child, ages 6 to 12 years (and for children of all ages) who experienced the death of someone close to them. One can use **My Memory Book** to create a unique book of memories about the loved one who died, with written exercises, collage, journaling, and drawings in any medium the child cares to use. *"This workbook is a wonderful tool to assist therapists and counselors in their work with bereaved children."* Nancy Boyd Webb, DSW, BCD, Professor, Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service.

\$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.

CALLED OUT: The Voices and Gifts of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Presbyterians, edited by Jane Adams Spahr, Kathryn Poethig, Selisse Berry, and Melinda V. McLain. Here 39 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people write about their lives as Presbyterians. People from both the old northern and southern churches, and the reunited Presbyterian Church (USA), tell their stories here with candor, wit, and faith. An important book for all who either are Lesbian or Gay or would seek to understand Gay people of faith, regardless of their religion.

\$15.95 each, six or more copies for \$13.45 each.

"THE LEAST OF THESE:" A Christian Social Action Bible Study on Matthew 25:31-46, by R. Adam DeBaugh. This seven part Bible study is perfect for small groups, cell groups, discussion groups, and Christian education classes. The author was Director of UFMCC's Department of Christian Social Action for 11 years. It is a powerful study series on a vital Biblical mandate for all Christian social action ministries.

\$2.00 each, six or more copies for \$1.50 each.

"THIS IS WHY I SING!" by the **Rev. Delores P. Berry**. *Her latest album!* Both cassette tape and CD, featuring the songs "Daystar," "It Is Well," "We Shall Behold," "Jesus Loves Me," "Amazing Grace/God's Eye is on the Sparrow/Blessed Assurance," and the title song.

11 selections. Cassette Tape, \$11.00 each, Compact Disc, \$15.00 each.

GAY/LESBIAN CHRISTIAN DECAL. A static-cling, clear acetate window decal combining two traditional symbols, the Christian fish outline and the Rainbow Gay/Lesbian Pride Flag. This, more than anything else, says, "I am a Gay/Lesbian Christian!" *New from Chi Rho Press!*

\$3.00 each.

Christmas Clearance Sale on Chi Rho Press Standards

POSITIVELY GAY: New Approaches to Gay and Lesbian Life, edited by Betty Berzon, Ph.D. Foreword by Gay U.S. Congressperson Barney Frank (D.Mass.). Published by Celestial Arts. **\$10.95 each.**

FAMILIES RE-MEMBERED: Pastoral Support for Friends and Families Living with Hiv/Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. Ministers and others working with people living with hiv, their families and friends need to re-member (restructure) families to include family members of choice. This book explores the dynamics and the realities of families of choice in the context of hiv/aids.

\$9.95 each, six or more copies for \$7.50 each.

"I'M STILL DANCING!" A Gay Man's Health Experience, by the Rev. A. Stephen Pieters. A powerful book by a long-term survivor of aids: articles, sermons and journal entries chronicle life with aids. Sick since 1982 and diagnosed with aids in 1984, Steve is Field Director of the UFMCC's Aids Ministry.

\$7.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.00 each.

TO CELEBRATE AND TO MOURN: Liturgical Resources for Worshiping Communities Living with Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. "As people who continue to live in the midst of aids, one of our greatest resources is that of the community of faith." Dr. Kavar provides parts of liturgies for various hiv/aids-related worship experiences.

\$3.00 each, six or more copies for \$2.25 each.

WRITING TO CONGRESS: "Prophecy Against the Shepherds of Israel," Ezekiel 34:2, by R. Adam DeBaugh. A description of how best to write or visit your elected representatives in government and a fascinating Bible study.

\$0.75 each, six or more copies for \$0.60 each.

THE WHOLE CHURCH BODY BOOK: A Manual of Lay Ministry, by Jean Gralley. This classic resource has a history of the laity, sections on understanding lay and clergy ministry, building team ministry, congregational resources, and UFMCC structure, vocabulary and bylaws.

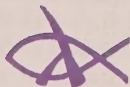
\$4.00 each, six or more copies for \$3.00 each.



Handouts

Free to be
Lesbian/Gay

A Brief Look at the
Bible and
Homosexuality





Free to be Lesbian/Gay

A Brief Look at the Bible and Homosexuality

"You shall know the truth and the truth will set you free." John 8:32

This brochure is intended to share the Good News of Jesus Christ that *every* person is loved by God. There is no condemnation of a person being Lesbian or Gay. Christian leaflets which claim to give "simple answers" condemning homosexuality do a great injustice to the depth of God's Word. We hope that this brochure will begin to build your knowledge and understanding. We encourage you to examine the subject in more detail.

* * *

Perhaps you are Lesbian or Gay, or one of your loved ones or friends may be. You undoubtedly know Lesbian/Gay persons, *whether or not you are aware of it*. It may be that the traditional attitude of church and society toward Lesbians and Gay men causes you concern and even pain. You may have been convinced that Lesbian and Gay people are rejected from God's realm and Christ's Church.

Many people have been taught that the Bible condemns homosexuality. Metropolitan Community Churches, and many other religious leaders and organizations, are convinced that this is not true. We know that Lesbians and Gay men receive complete love and acceptance from God.

How can there be such differences between parts of the Christian Church over this issue? We believe that Christians who present anti-homosexual biblical arguments base them largely on unexamined traditional interpretations which have been asserted for centuries about some passages. In recent times, scholars have finally studied these passages in depth. Many archaeological

discoveries about biblical times have also provided fresh insights.

* * *

There is no credible evidence for an anti-homosexual interpretation of Scripture. The facts about the few passages at issue are briefly summarized in this brochure. Such brief statements only begin to do justice to sound interpretation of Scripture. That must be a continuing, searching endeavor. This summary is a starting place. It is an assurance that Biblical truth is *not* on the side of tradition in this matter.

Christians in Metropolitan Community Churches believe in the authority of Scripture. We know that there are some ideas which people claim are biblical which, in fact are *not*. We are far more concerned, however, with those things which the Bible *does* teach us about God and ourselves. We are free to be ourselves. God will guide us in that freedom. We are committed as Christians to lives which follow the principles and teachings found in the Bible.

* * *

Deuteronomy 23:17-18

**(Related -- I Kings 14:22-24,
15:22, 22:46; II Kings 23:7)**

These verses have been applied to homosexuality because of a *mistranslation* of two Hebrew words. The Authorized ("King James") Version translates them "*whore*" and "*sodomite*." They are actually the masculine and feminine forms of the same noun. The word is literally translated "male (or female) holy one" and is understood as "temple (or cult) prostitute." This person was a kind of priestess or priest in fertility cult worship. In these cults, sexual activity in the temple was believed to lead the deity to bestow fertility. The verses have nothing to do with homosexuality, as we understand it today.

Genesis 19:4-11

(Related -- Judges 19:22)

Ezekiel 16:49-50 states clearly that Sodom was destroyed for a general, deep sinfulness. Neither homosexuality nor any specific sexual sin is cited. Even if the men of the city meant to rape God's messengers, which is in dispute, the issue

is not that such an assault would have been homosexual but that it would have been an abuse of guests, a profound crime in the ancient world. This account is only one example of the ungodly behavior toward others which actually brought Sodom's condemnation.

Leviticus 18:22; 20:13-14

These verses are found in the section of Leviticus known as the "Holiness Code" of law. Observance of these laws reminded the Hebrew people that they were set apart to God. (Remember that the New Testament teaches that Christians are no longer subject to this former law.) The verses involve the belief that anal intercourse (the only practice mentioned here) was humiliating and subjugating. It was used for that purpose by some cultures against conquered enemies. In such cases the view was that captive men were being "used" like women, who were chattel property in those societies. The Hebrew people believed that to do this to a male was to violate the dignity of the male sex. Their sexist culture believed that each *male* was the image of God. To "lie with a man as

with a woman" was, in their eyes, to violate his dignity. This was considered "abomination," the translation of a Hebrew word which meant specifically that a practice was idolatrous. The universal issue here is not homosexuality but the use of other human beings as objects, thus violating their humanness and the image of God in which they are created.

I Corinthians 6:9; I Timothy 1:10

At issue are two Greek words: *mal-akee* (some scholars transliterate the word *malakoi*), which occurs only in the list in I Corinthians, and *arsenokeeteh* (some scholars transliterate the word *arsenokoitai*), which occurs in both lists. The meanings of the words have been *assumed* traditionally to refer to homosexual people. Their exact translations, like those of some surrounding words, are not known precisely. Recent scholarship has shed some light on them which shows that they certainly do *not* refer to homosexual people or behavior in general. Indeed, there was *no* word which referred to homosexual people or homosexuality in general, though there

were Greek words for particular homosexual behaviors.

Scholarship indicates that the words may refer to participants in a Greek form of pederasty which was widely condemned for its manipulative and abusive character. Another theory is that they refer to particular participants in fertility cult worship, and are about temple or cult prostitutes similar to those being condemned in Deuteronomy 23. While these words may perhaps refer to specific homosexual activities, they certainly cannot be construed as references to homosexual orientation or homosexual people in general.

Romans 1:26-27

This is the only passage in Scripture which, apparently, refers to homosexual behavior among women, as well as among men. The unjustified, traditional interpretation that this passage condemns homosexuality in general arises in part from failure to relate the passage to the whole chapter. Paul is writing about idolatrous people who put things or concerns ahead of their devotion to God. As an example here, he cites a *specific*

group of people, probably in a Roman fertility cult, who are engaging in homosexual activity. These particular people are so consumed with a self-centered, destructive craving for sex that they ignore God and the image of God in the other person. Paul writes that God, having given them free will, allows them to plunge to self-destruction. He warns of the danger of behavior and attitudes which turn from caring for God and for others. This certainly *is* a dangerous path for both Lesbian/Gay and non-Gay people. Traditionalists infer that Paul means that homosexual behavior can *never* be loving. In reality, the Christian Lesbian or Gay man is freed by and subject to the same law of love which Christ commanded for all of us. Behaving lovingly toward one another and acknowledging God's image in the other is basic to all of Christian life, including sexuality, whether the Christian is Lesbian/Gay or non-Gay.

* * *

"Against Nature" (Contra Naturam)

Traditional theology has argued that God created male and female genders, as recorded in Genesis, only as a means of procreation. Homosexuality is condemned with the assertion that it is not procreative. The argument is that, since a gender difference exists, heterosexuality is the *only* way in which God meant sexuality to be expressed. In the Genesis accounts, however, procreation was only one of God's purposes. The other, equally important, was human companionship -- relationship. God did not wish us to be alone.

It is also dangerous to argue merely from biology when discussing God's intents and ourselves as the "image of God." Jesus told us that "God is Spirit." We *are* created in this image of God as spiritual beings. Human beings are distinguished from other animals by that spiritual nature, partly by our capacity for relationship which is the *context* of human sexuality. Our "natural" capacity for sexual expression, heterosexual or

homosexual, is given its deepest meaning by our capacity for loving relationship.

* * *

In the whole of Scripture it is the grace of God which shines through. In a lifetime of study we learn of the God of love who creates and sustains and builds us. We learn of our freedom to choose relationship with God and, by doing so, to choose wholeness and health.

To whatever degree God's gift of sexuality may involve homosexual or heterosexual orientation, it is a gift which, like all of God's gifts, is meant to be dedicated to God and submitted to God's guidance. This is part of the Good News of Christ which we in MCC believe comes through Scripture from our Creator.

This **λandout** is digested from the book *The Bible and Homosexuality*, Fourth Edition, by the Rev. Michael E. England, published by Chi Rho Press. For a more in depth discussion of the issues touched upon in this **λandout**, write Chi Rho Press to order the book.

This **λandout** was written by the Rev.
Michael E. England.

© The Rev. Michael E. England, 1995.

λandouts

Resources for the local church from

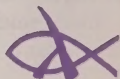
Chi Rho Press

P.O. Box 7864

Gaithersburg, MD 20898

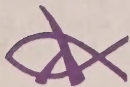
301/670-1859

e-mail address: ChiRhoPrss@AOL.com



Handouts

Welcome to MCC!





Welcome to MCC!

Welcome to Metropolitan Community Church! We hope that you find a blessed spiritual experience here as well as a friendly and loving community of faith in this local church. Each local Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) is a member of a worldwide denomination called the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC).

MCC was founded on October 6, 1968 -- eight months before Stonewall -- by the Rev. Troy D. Perry in Los Angeles, California. The Rev. Perry's vision for MCC was of a Christian Church which would preach the Good News that God loves everyone, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people. The outreach of MCC is not limited to the gay/lesbian community; many of our churches have very active heterosexual members who have found a comfortable and supportive church home in MCC. It would not be accurate to label MCC as a "Gay Church," though we are the oldest and largest religious organization in the world committed to serving the gay and lesbian community. We are a Christian Church with a special ministry of inclusion for minorities, especially gay, lesbian, and bisexual people, who have been historically

excluded from the life and ministry of other Christian Churches.

Our ministry attempts to reach out to racial and ethnic minorities, the differently abled, those in prison, young people, the aging, the poor, those who are ill, and many others who are perceived to be "different" from the majority. We are a church for all people, welcoming all, excluding none -- just as Jesus Christ did.

Currently, MCCs are found in 14 countries -- Argentina, Australia, Canada, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, the Philippines, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Other interest groups exist in many other countries and are in various stages of the process of joining with the UFMCC. UFMCC's Global Outreach (World Church Extension) program is devoted to enabling the spread of MCC around the world.

All around the world, MCC is committed to meeting the needs of the people to whom it ministers. In Nigeria, the UFMCC has built a medical clinic to serve the health care needs of the impoverished Ibo people to whom the MCCs in Nigeria minister. The vast majority of the members of MCC in Nigeria are heterosexuals, and have joined in loving community with other MCCers all over the world.

In the Dominican Republic, the MCCs operate an orphanage. In the Philippines, MCC has organized a craft workshop to enable its poorer people to make a living.

The history of MCC began in 1968 when Troy Perry, a young Pentecostal preacher rejected the common church teaching of the day about homosexuality. The despair of a friend who said that no one loves homosexuals, not even God, led Troy Perry to start a church where that lie would be condemned and the truth of God's eternal love for all people, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people, would be preached.

Twelve people attended the first worship service of the Metropolitan Community Church of Los Angeles (MCC-LA) on Oct. 6, 1968, held in the living room of Troy Perry's home. Troy preached on what he called "the three-pronged Gospel of Christian Salvation, Christian Community, and Christian Social Action." These three strands have formed the braid that is central to MCC's ministry to this day. In fact the UFMCC General Council's Mission Statement, written in 1989, says, "The UFMCC empowers people to bring Christian Salvation, Christian Community, and Christian Social Action to the world."

That small church in Los Angeles began to grow and purchased the first property

owned by the gay community in the world when it bought its first church building. That building, at 22nd and Union Streets, was destroyed by arson in 1973, the first of many MCC buildings that have been deliberately burned in our history. But we know that the Church of Jesus Christ isn't embodied in any building, but rather in the "responding people of God." Despite the fires, vandalism, hate crimes, attacks on our people, and even murders, the Church will go on to preach the Good News of God's all-inclusive love. (Troy Perry has written two books which describe the early years of MCC, *The Lord's My Shepherd and Knows I'm Gay* and *Don't Be Afraid Anymore*.)

With the growth of MCC-LA, other congregations began to meet and ask for affiliation with MCC. So in 1970 the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches was born and a new denomination took its place in the history of the Christian Church. Now there are close to 300 churches in the United States and in 13 other countries. Denominational headquarters are in Los Angeles with a full staff and substantial budget. Lyle Schaller, a leader in the evangelical church growth movement, was quoted in *The Advocate* as saying, "If you were to pick the ten fastest growing denominations in the (U.S.A.), MCC would clearly be one of them. . . . Whereas most of

the mainline denominations are organized around religious law, MCC is clearly organized around God's grace. In today's world, that's a winner" (December 13, 1994).

The government of each MCC is vested in the congregational meeting and between congregational meetings in a local church administrative board, often called the board of directors. Larger churches elect their pastors, the board of directors, and also lay delegates who represent the church at regional and international denominational level conferences.

Each church is part of a District or a World Church Extension Area. Districts are governed by District Conferences made up of all clergy in the District and lay delegates from each church. Between District Conferences, Districts are administered by District Committees, moderated by the District Coordinator, who provides spiritual direction and guidance, and coordinates and administers the work of the District.

The UFMCC is governed by the General Conference which meets every two years and brings together clergy and lay delegates from all over the world. Between General Conferences the Fellowship is governed by the General Council which is made up of the Board of Elders and the District Coordinators from all of the Districts around the world.

The UFMCC General Conference elects seven Elders "to serve in a pastoral role and direct the spiritual life of the Fellowship." Elders are elected for four-year terms and may be reelected. The Rev. Troy Perry serves as Elder for his lifetime, a mark of honor to him as the founder of MCC. The Board of Elders reflect the diversity of our denomination with men, women and a transgendered person, people from the U.S., Europe and Australia/New Zealand, and people of different races and ethnic backgrounds.

People have remarked that MCC is an "ecumenical church," by which they mean that MCC draws people from many different religious backgrounds. Indeed most MCC congregations are characterized by a wide diversity in religious backgrounds among its members. Yet people in MCC are united by a very basic Statement of Faith and a shared history of exclusion experienced in other churches.

The Statement of Faith, found in the UFMCC Bylaws, forms the foundation of MCC's theology. It affirms Christianity as "the revelation of God in Jesus Christ." It goes on to say that MCC was "founded in the interest of offering a church home to all who confess and believe," and that "our faith is based upon the principles outlined

in the historic creeds: Apostles and Nicene."

The Statement of Faith goes on to lay out MCC's creedal roots, saying, we believe "in one triune God, omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient, of one substance and of three persons: God -- our Parent-Creator; Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of God, God in flesh, human; and the Holy Spirit -- God as our Sustainer."

"The Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, showing forth God to every person through the law and the prophets, and finally, completely and ultimately on earth in the being of Jesus Christ."

"Jesus ... the Christ ... historically recorded as living some 2,000 years before this writing, is God incarnate, of human birth, fully God and fully human, and that by being one with God, Jesus has demonstrated once and forever that all people are likewise Children of God, being spiritually made in God's image."

"The Holy Spirit is God making known God's love and interest to all people. The Holy Spirit is God, available to and working through all who are willing to place their welfare in God's keeping."

"Every person is justified by grace to God through faith in Jesus Christ."

"We are saved from loneliness, despair and degradation through God's gift of grace, as was declared by our Savior. Such grace is not earned, but is a pure gift from a God of pure love. We further commend the community of the faithful to a life of prayer; to seek genuine forgiveness for unkind, thoughtless and unloving acts; and to a committed life of Christian service."

And finally, "The Church serves to bring all people to God through Christ. To this end, it shall arrange for regular services of worship, prayer, interpretation of the Scriptures, and edification through the teaching and preaching of the Word."

Nowhere in the UFMCC Bylaws and Statement of Faith is there any specific mention of homosexuality. This is not an attempt to keep MCC in the closet, but a recognition that our sexual orientation has little to do with our faith journey. But clearly, MCC's position on sexual orientation is very different from most other Christian churches. We believe that our sexuality is a good gift of God. Homosexuality, in and by itself, is not a sin. And we are not sinful when we use God's good gift of our sexuality in loving, mutual relationships. MCC celebrates relationships, gay and straight, and celebrates God's gift of sexuality to humankind.

MCC also believes that every Christian is a "minister." Some of our people are called to the professional ministry as clergy, but most are lay ministers. We believe in the priesthood of all believers, and that with Christian ministry comes spiritual gifts, in various forms, of which every Christian has at least one, and a call from God to serve God and humanity.

We are called to meet human needs in Christian social action and social justice arenas. It is no mistake that social action was an integral part of Troy Perry's first sermon in MCC. He has been an advocate for social justice, and not only for gay and lesbian people. MCC has been in the forefront of justice issues around the world, whether it is the struggle for lesbian and gay civil rights, racial equality, health care, or feeding the hungry, MCC is there.

It is also significant that the word "community" is MCC's middle name. In our experience as lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people, we have found that very often community and family is denied us. We are excluded, thrown out, rejected. MCC seeks to provide a welcoming, inclusive community for all people, regardless of the differences that separate us. In many smaller cities and towns, MCC has historically provided leadership for the lesbian and

gay community -- sometimes the first or even the only such leadership.

Similarly, MCC has been in the forefront of the fight against HIV/AIDS. MCCs around the world have lost over 4,000 members and friends to this terrible disease. Our AIDS Ministry, headed by long-term AIDS survivor the Rev. Steve Pieters, provides resources, information, education, advocacy, and support for local churches in the struggle against HIV/AIDS.

MCC embraces two Sacraments, Baptism and Holy Communion. Communion is offered every week in every MCC around the world. Out of respect for those in recovery, most of our churches offer unfermented fruit of the vine instead of or along with wine. At communion in MCC, typically, individuals, couples, or even groups of friends and family receive communion together and the server prays a brief prayer of blessing for those receiving.

MCC also recognizes six Rites of the Church: Ordination, Attaining Membership in the Church, Holy Union and Holy Matrimony, Funeral or Memorial Service, Laying On of Hands or prayer for the healing of the sick in mind, body, or spirit, and the Rite of Blessing of things and relationships.

We hope that you will find a welcoming, loving community of faith in MCC. Please feel free to ask the pastor, pastoral staff, or lay leaders of this church about its unique and special history.

Welcome home!

This **λandout** was written by R. Adam DeBaugh, Director of Chi Rho Press.

© R. Adam DeBaugh, 1995.

λandouts

Resources for the local church from

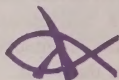
Chi Rho Press

P.O. Box 7864

Gaithersburg, MD 20898

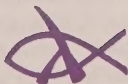
301/670-1859

e-mail address: ChiRhoPrss@AOL.com



Handouts

What Do We
Believe?





What Do We Believe?

MCC is sometimes called an ecumenical church. This is so because the Metropolitan Community Churches include people from different faiths and religious backgrounds. This has often not only made our liturgical and worship experience varied but sometimes confusing to new-comers. We often say that if you are uncomfortable with something going on in a worship service, wait a few minutes -- something more familiar to you will happen!

But MCC is not a church without any theological foundation. There is a theological ground upon which the church is founded. This "Statement of Faith" is found in the third article of the Bylaws of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. This Statement of Faith or Doctrine says:

"Christianity is the revelation of God in Jesus Christ and is the religion set forth in the Scriptures. Jesus Christ is foretold in the Old Testament, presented in the New Testament, and proclaimed by the Christian Church in every age and in every land."

This firmly establishes MCC as a Christian church, centered around traditional Christian teachings about Jesus and

firmly rooted in the Bible, both Hebrew and Christian Testaments.

"Founded in the interest of offering a church home to all who confess and believe, the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches moves in the mainstream of Christianity."

This sentence makes it clear that MCC is not just for Gay and Lesbian people, but for "all who confess and believe." It establishes our claim to kinship with the rest of the Christian world in terms of our beliefs.

"Our faith is based upon the principles outlined in the historic creeds: Apostles and Nicene."

Here the UFMCC Statement of Faith declares the creedal roots of our belief, the historic Apostles Creed and Nicene Creed.

"We believe:

"1. In one triune God, omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient, of one substance and of three persons: God -- our Parent-Creator; Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of God, God in flesh, human; and the Holy Spirit -- God as our Sustainer."

MCC here declares that it is a Trinitarian Church, believing in the Trinity of Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

"2. That the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, showing forth God to

every person through the law and the prophets, and finally, completely and ultimately on earth in the being of Jesus Christ."

This section affirms the centrality of the Bible in MCC's life and teachings.

"3. That Jesus ... the Christ ... historically recorded as living some 2,000 years before this writing, is God incarnate, of human birth, fully God and fully human, and that by being one with God, Jesus has demonstrated once and forever that all people are likewise Children of God, being spiritually made in God's image."

MCC, as a Christian church, is focused on Jesus, "fully God and fully human," and the important notion that we are all children of God, "spiritually made in God's image."

"4. That the Holy Spirit is God making known God's love and interest to all people. The Holy Spirit is God, available to and working through all who are willing to place their welfare in God's keeping."

Here MCC affirms its belief in the workings of God, the Holy Spirit, in the lives of all people.

"5. Every person is justified by grace to God through faith in Jesus Christ."

The theological belief in justification by grace through faith is an important Christian tenet which MCC here affirms as part of its foundational belief system.

"6. We are saved from loneliness, despair and degradation through God's gift of grace, as was declared by our Savior. Such grace is not earned, but is a pure gift from a God of pure love. We further commend the community of the faithful to a life of prayer; to seek genuine forgiveness for unkind, thoughtless and unloving acts; and to a committed life of Christian service."

One of the most beautiful sentences in our Bylaws begins this section, an affirmation that "we are saved from loneliness, despair and degradation through God's gift of grace, as was declared by our Savior." This is central to the Good News that MCC preaches, an end of "loneliness, despair and degradation" through grace that is free, as Jesus taught. This section goes on to lift up a life of prayer to the faithful, repentance and the assurance of forgiveness, and a life of meeting the human needs of others.

"7. The Church serves to bring all people to God through Christ. To this end, it shall arrange for regular services of worship, prayer, interpretation of the

Scriptures, and edification through the teaching and preaching of the Word."

Here MCC defines the life of the Church -- "to bring all people to God through Christ" -- echoing the Great Commission. And we do this with regular worship services, teaching the Scriptures, and preaching.

This Statement of Faith, as part of the Bylaws of the UFMCC, is the foundation of MCC. It was created by the original Elders of the church and made a part of the UFMCC Bylaws by the General Conference, representing all clergy and lay delegates from MCC congregations. As a part of our Bylaws, it is subject to amendment by the General Conference. Other details of the faith beyond this basic statement of Christian belief are up to the individual believer and are between the believer and God. It is general enough to embrace a wide diversity of historic and evolving Christian belief.

Historically, the Christian Church has been torn apart by theological controversies that have divided Christendom and even been the cause of warfare. Individual MCC members are free to believe any of the many other beliefs of Christian thought, so long as they are consistent with and not in contradiction to MCC's basic statement of faith and doctrine. Such issues as the importance

of the Virgin Birth and the debate over transubstantiation versus consubstantiation in the Communion are left up to the individual believer.

MCC draws its members from many religious, liturgical, and philosophical background. As such there will be a wide variety of beliefs within the context of the basic Christian beliefs. It is our hope that in MCC there is room for all Christians.

As part of its faith journey, MCC embraces two holy Sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion. The Bylaws say:

"Baptism by water and the Spirit, as recorded in Scriptures, shall be a sign of the dedication of each life to God and God's service. Through the words and acts of this Sacrament, the recipient is identified as God's own Child."

"Holy Communion is the partaking of blessed bread and fruit of the vine in accordance with the words of Jesus, our Sovereign: 'This is my body . . . this is my blood.' (Matthew 26:26-28). All who believe, confess and repent and seek God's love through Christ, after examining their consciences, may freely participate in the communal meal, signifying their desire to be received into community with Jesus Christ, to be saved by Jesus Christ's sacrifice, to participate in Jesus Christ's resurrection, and to



commit their lives anew to the service of Jesus Christ."

Holy Communion is offered each Sunday as well as at other worship services at the discretion of the Pastor.

In addition, six Rites of the Church are performed by its duly authorized ministers, about which the Bylaws say:

"The Rite of Ordination is the setting apart of duly qualified persons for the professional ministry of this Church. It is evidenced by the laying on of hands by authorized ordained clergy."

"The Rite of Attaining Membership in the Church shall be conducted by the pastor or pastoral leader before the local congregation at any regular worship service. After completing classes for instruction in the beliefs and doctrines of the Church, a baptized Christian may become a member in good standing of the local church group through a letter of transfer from a recognized Christian body or through affirmation of faith."

Members in good standing in an MCC congregation which is a Chartered Church or a Commissioned Church have a voice and vote in the conduct of business for that church at congregational meetings and have a vote in the election of local church officials.

The membership list of a local church is reviewed by the local administrative body each year. Any member who does not have registered attendance, identified financial support, definite service contribution, and demonstrated interest and loyalty within the preceding period of six to 12 months may be removed from the roll of members in good standing and placed on a list of inactive members (and thus can not vote). In addition, members may be disciplined for disloyalty and unbecoming conduct.

"The Rite of Holy Union and the Rite of Holy Matrimony are the spiritual joining of two persons in a manner fitting and proper by a duly authorized clergy of the Church. After both persons have been counseled and apprised of their responsibilities one towards the other, this rite of conferring God's blessing may be performed."

"The Rite of Funeral or Memorial Service is to be fittingly conducted by the ministers of the Church for the deceased."

Funerals and Memorial Services are more common now, in the age of HIV/AIDS and cancer. Many people look to MCC to perform their funerals even though they are not members.

"The Rite of Laying on of Hands or prayer for the healing of the sick in mind, body or spirit is to be conducted by the

ministers of the Church, at their discretion, upon request."

Laying on of hands may be done by anyone by request and is accompanied by prayer for healing.

"The Rite of Blessing may be conducted by the ministers of the Church for persons, things and relationships, when deemed appropriate by the minister. This includes the dedication of a church building to the glory of God."

This Rite can be for a wide variety of things, such as homes or apartments, pets, rings or crosses, friendships or lover relationships.

With the Rites and Sacraments, MCC goes about being the church of Jesus Christ in the world.

You have perhaps noticed that nowhere in our Statement of Faith and Doctrine or in the descriptions of our Rites and Sacraments is it specifically stated that MCC is a Gay and Lesbian Church. This is so, even though worldwide our membership is easily 90% Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people of faith. Indeed, while we are often referred to as "the Gay Church," we are also very clear that this is a misnomer.

The phrase "Gay Church" seems to focus on its sexuality. We focus on Jesus

Christ. A "Gay Church" would seem to be just for Gay people, we are a church for all people. We are very clear that we are a new revelation of God's love for all people in this age and time. We are an authentic Church of Jesus Christ, for all who would confess and believe. We are not "just a Gay church," we are the Church of Jesus Christ, preaching the authentic Gospel to a hurting world. We are a church which tries to be intentional about opening its doors to the marginalized and the excluded. We are a church which tries to be inclusive of all people. We are a church which tries to be especially welcoming of those people whom the historic church has persecuted and denied entrance: Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people, women, ethnic and racial minorities, transgendered people, people with disabilities, people who are different from the majority in some way.

And we welcome **you**, whoever you are. You are welcome to Christ's table, and thus to this church. Come as you are, believing as you do. **Welcome to MCC!**

This **λandout** was written by R. Adam DeBaugh, Director of Chi Rho Press.

© R. Adam DeBaugh, 1995.

λandouts

Resources for the local church from

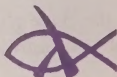
Chi Rho Press

P.O. Box 7864

Gaithersburg, MD 20898

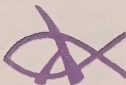
301/670-1859

e-mail address: ChiRhoPrss@AOL.com



Handouts

What Does it Mean
to be a Member
of MCC?





What Does it Mean to be a Member of MCC?

The Metropolitan Community Churches take membership very seriously. We believe, and our Bylaws state, that each member is a *minister*. While MCC sets aside *clergy ministers* to serve our churches and works, the rest of us are *lay ministers*, and are expected to make a covenant commitment as members to engage in active Christian ministry. We believe that God gives each member at least one of the spiritual gifts and human skills needed to succeed in some ministry in the church. Each member/minister accepts the responsibility to share their gifts and skills with the world through active involvement in the Church.

Many Christian denominations will leave people on their membership rolls until they either die or request removal. In fact, many churches have an average Sunday attendance at church services that is a rather small percentage of the membership.

In MCC just the opposite is true. In many of our churches, average Sunday attendance is higher than membership. This is because the UFMCC Bylaws require a local church administrative body (often called the Board of Directors) to review the membership rolls at least once a year (Article VII). The board will contact members whose involvement gives the appearance of diminished commitment to active ministry during the previous six months to a year. Members who have become inactive may be removed from the roll of members in good standing and placed on a list of inactive members.

Inactive members are not permitted to vote at congregational meetings but may be restored to active membership by the board if they renew their commitment to the church with their attendance and other requirements.

Becoming a member is a Rite of the Church in the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. According to Article III, Doctrine, Sacraments and Rites, Section C, of the UFMCC Bylaws, "The Rite of Attaining Membership in the Church shall be conducted by the pastor or pastoral leader before a local congregation at any regular worship service. After completing classes for instruction in the beliefs and doctrines of the Church, a baptized

Christian may become a member in good standing of the local church group through a letter of transfer from a recognized Christian body or through affirmation of faith."

Thus, in order to become a member in good standing of a local MCC a person is required to take membership classes as offered by the local church. These are sometimes called "inquirers classes" and they vary in length from church to church. Usually the membership classes will deal with the local church history, history of the UFMCC, the beliefs and doctrines of the church, and what is required and expected of members. They may help prospective members to discern their spiritual gifts so that they may be integrated into the church community and ministries. The pastor of your church, another member of the pastoral staff, or a member of the board of directors can tell you what is required and the date of the next membership class.

Notice also that one must be a "baptized Christian" in order to be a member of MCC. You may have been baptized as an infant, an adolescent, or an adult in another church. You may wish to reaffirm that baptism in MCC. It is not necessary for you to do this, since MCC believes that baptism is always valid, regardless of the church in which it was performed. If you were never baptized, you may become baptized in MCC

any time before you are brought into membership.

The reception of new members always happens at a regular worship service of the local church. This is because we view membership as a commitment to celebrate. Your brothers and sisters in Christ who are already members of your local church will want to witness and celebrate your joining the church as a member. Also membership in MCC is membership in a **community of faith**. The entire church will want to welcome you into community with them.

MCC also views membership as a covenant commitment. Membership is not just a passive exercise of having one's name on the rolls. Membership in MCC is an active covenant between the individual believer, God, and the local church. Much is expected of members in MCC. In fact, four things are looked at each year by the board of directors when reviewing the rolls of members. The Bylaws say that "Any member who does not have registered attendance, identified financial support, definite service contribution, and demonstrated interest and loyalty within the preceding period of six months to one year may be removed from the roll of members in good standing and placed on a list of inactive members." Let's look at those requirements:

Registered Attendance

A member is expected to attend church regularly. It is up to the local congregation how such attendance is "registered." In many smaller churches someone actually takes attendance, looking over the congregation and checking people's names off a list. Other churches pass around sign up sheets from which registered attendance is ascertained. Some larger churches have computer generated name tags which people are encouraged to take and wear when they come to church. This serves two purposes: it enables people to have easy reminders of each other's names and the name tags that remain are the folks who were not in church! Respect whatever way your church records "registered attendance." Your membership standing relies on it!

Identified Financial Support

This has sometimes caused problems for some people, but it is an important element of one's covenant commitment to God, the local congregation, and the broader community of faith. It is also a significant part of how the church is kept fiscally sound. Your giving is between you and God. In most churches when the board reviews the membership rolls, the treasurer affirms whether or not a particular member has given to the financial life of the church,

without specifying any amounts or frequency of giving. Many people have their financial giving identified by making their tithes and offerings by check. Some churches have offering envelopes for this purpose. Check with a member of the church board or the pastor to ascertain how this is done in your church.

MCC teaches and believes in tithing. Article X of the UFMCC Bylaws says, "The UFMCC adopts and teaches tithing as the scripturally affirmed means of supporting the Church and its ministries, and as the expression of good stewardship of time, skills, and money by individuals and church bodies. Therefore, it shall be the responsibility of both the clergy and the lay leadership of local churches to plan and implement programs of stewardship both to help persons grow in the grace of giving and to fund the Church's ministries."

Tithing -- giving ten percent of one's income back to God -- is the ancient way God has set forth in the Scriptures for us to honor God for all that has been done for us. We think nothing of giving fifteen or twenty percent of a meal's cost to the server as a tip -- God only asks for ten percent!

Definite Service Contribution

This means our involvement in the life and ministry of the church. In Article IV,

Ministry, the UFMCC Bylaws say, "The UFMCC affirms the universal priesthood of all believers (I Peter 2:5-10). All members of the Church are called by God to a ministry of the Gospel of Christ in the church and in the world."

The Bylaws further say in Article IV that "Laypeople are the People of God, called by God and authorized by Scripture to respond to the Word, serving as Christ served, to the end that the Church may be edified and the world transformed. The UFMCC affirms that this is the ministry of every layperson in this Fellowship."

As all members are "ministers" in the "priesthood of all believers," they are expected to exercise their ministry in some form of "definite service contribution" in the life of the church. This may mean service on the local church administrative body or as a lay delegate; it may mean as a deacon; it may mean serving on a committee; it may be in a particular church ministry; it may be as ushers, serving communion, or reading Scripture during worship; it may be as a member of the choir or music staff; it may even mean cleaning rest rooms and washing floors. But all members are called to ministry. All are expected to exercise their ministry for the glory of God. And MCC believes that the end result of us all

doing our ministries is that "the Church may be edified and the world transformed."

Demonstrated Interest and Loyalty

This means that members in good standing of the local church will demonstrate their commitment to the church in their daily lives. They will participate in activities sponsored by the church in addition to Sunday worship. They will be loyal to the church, not attacking it gratuitously, but speaking truth in love about the church. They will refrain from deliberate or malicious acts which damage or bring harm to the church. They will not undermine the authority and ministry of the pastor. They will support and participate in the vision, mission, and goals of the church.

This does not mean that we will never disagree in MCC. What it does mean is that our disagreements will be characterized by prayer, love, kindness, honesty, and direct dealing.

In addition to these four things which the local church administrative body will look for in each member as they review the membership rolls, the UFMCC Bylaws lift up two other expectations of members in good standing. The Discipline section of Article VII, Church Membership, says, "The UFMCC cannot condone **disloyalty** or

unbecoming conduct on the part of any of its members and friends; therefore, the Board of Directors/local church administrative body of the church is empowered to remove by majority vote any member or friend from the rolls of the church or take such appropriate disciplinary action as it deems necessary."

"Disloyalty" and **"unbecoming conduct"** are not defined in the UFMCC Bylaws, though they (along with "dereliction of duty") are causes for discipline of members of the local church administrative body, Deacons, Student Clergy, Pastors, Clergy, Lay Delegates, District Officers, District Committee members, Elders, and members of the General Council. If you have questions about what your local church intends by "disloyalty and unbecoming conduct" on the part of its members, talk with the Pastor or the pastoral staff.

Not baptized? Maybe becoming a **Friend of the Church** is for you! For those people who are not baptized Christians or for some other reason do not feel comfortable becoming a full member in good standing of a local MCC but want to be a part of the life and ministry of the church, the UFMCC Bylaws have made a provision for **"Friends of the Church."**

The UFMCC Bylaws say, "A local church body may, if it desires, accept into the Church person(s) who, for one reason or another, feel that they cannot become regular members of the Church but who support the goals of the Church and want to be part of the work of the Church. Such people shall be designated as 'Friends of the Church.' Friends may serve on appointed committees and may participate in all activities of the Church. Friends may not, however, serve on the Board of Directors/local church administrative body and may not vote at congregational meetings."

This is not a requirement for all MCC congregations, so your local church may not recognize "Friends of the Church." Ask the Pastor if your church has an active program of Friends of the Church.

Regardless of whether you choose to become an active member in good standing of a local MCC congregation, you are welcome. You don't have to be a member in order to attend worship services, take Holy Communion, or attend and participate in the many ministries and programs of this church.

MCC's members, friends and regular attenders come from many different kinds of religious backgrounds and faith experiences. It is our hope that you will find a

comfortable community of families here at MCC; that this will be a place of safety, learning, challenge, and joy; and that through our ministry together you will find a closer walk with the God who created you, who saves you, and who sustains you.

This **λandout** was written by R. Adam DeBaugh, Director of Chi Rho Press.

© R. Adam DeBaugh, 1995.

λandouts

Resources for the local church from

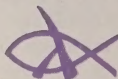
Chi Rho Press

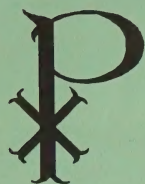
P.O. Box 7864

Gaithersburg, MD 20898

301/670-1859

e-mail address: ChiRhoPrss@AOL.com





CHI RHO PRESS

A Special Work of the UFMCC Mid-Atlantic District

P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.

301/670-1859

R. Adam DeBaugh, Director

November 1995

Dear brothers and sisters in MCC:

The enclosed Christmas catalog is going out to our entire mailing list this week. I hope there will be some things here that are of value to you -- and some excellent Christmas gifts for you as well. But I wanted to write MCC congregations and pastors to alert you to three new items of special interest to MCC.

The new church year is just beginning and we have a **Liturgical Calendar** especially for MCC. This is the second year we have produced the Liturgical Calendar compiled by the Rev. Joseph H. Gilbert. Keyed to the Common Lectionary Year "A", it begins with Advent 1995 and goes through the 1996 church year, including the Advent and Christmas seasons in 1996 (in Year "B"). Every pastor, student clergy, deacon, lay pastor and worship leader should have a copy -- this is a great Christmas gift for your church staff! The 28 page booklet is a handy 4-1/2" by 11" size and includes brief descriptions of each Gospel reading. **The Liturgical Calendar for 1996 is \$3.50 each, six or more copies are \$2.50 each.**

The Rainbow Fish, a Gay/Lesbian Christian window decal, combines the traditional *ichthos*, the fish outline of the early church and the modern Gay and Lesbian Rainbow flag. It is a static cling, clear acetate window decal that uses no adhesive. This, more than anything else, says, "I am a Gay/Lesbian Christian!" A great stocking stuffer for the Gay Christians on your list. **\$3.00 each.**

The New Handouts for the Local Church debuted at General Conference but this is the first mailing to all the MCCs about this new line of brochures designed especially for MCC. They are six inches high by 18 inches long, folded down to a handy, pocket-sized six by three inch brochure. All are just 15 cents each, regardless of the number ordered, plus shipping and handling. The first four titles are:

Free to Be Lesbian/Gay: A Brief Look at the Bible and Homosexuality

Welcome to MCC!

What Do We Believe?

What Does it Mean to be a Member of MCC?

All Handouts are just 15 cents each, plus shipping.

Because we believe these Handouts are going to be valuable resources for you and your church, I am enclosing a copy of each of the four for your review.

The Liturgical Calendar and the Handouts are not listed in the enclosed 1995 Holiday Catalog. Please order them directly. As always, please add shipping and handling of:

\$2.50 for orders up to \$19.99;

\$3.50 for orders of \$20 to \$39.99;

\$4.50 for orders of \$40 to \$59.99;

\$5.50 for orders of \$60 to \$79.99;

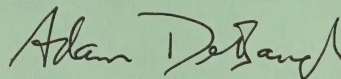
\$6.50 for orders of \$80 to \$99.99;

and 7% of the order for orders of \$100 or more (up to a maximum shipping and handling of \$15).

Write us at the address on the letterhead, our voice or fax telephone number is 301/670-1859; and our e-mail address is ChiRhoPrss@AOL.com.

I hope that the holidays are filled with every good thing for you and that you are richly blessed in your lives and ministries in the coming year. Happy Christmas!

Grace and Peace,



R. Adam DeBaugh
Director

Special Chi Rho Press Order Form

Handouts (\$0.15 each):

_____ *Free to Be Lesbian/Gay* _____

_____ *Welcome to MCC* _____

_____ *What Do We Believe?* _____

_____ *What Does It Mean to be a Member of MCC?* _____

_____ **1995-1996 Liturgical Calendar** _____

_____ (\$3.50 each, six or more for \$2.50 each) _____

Subtotal:

Shipping and Handling:

+

TOTAL:

Name: _____

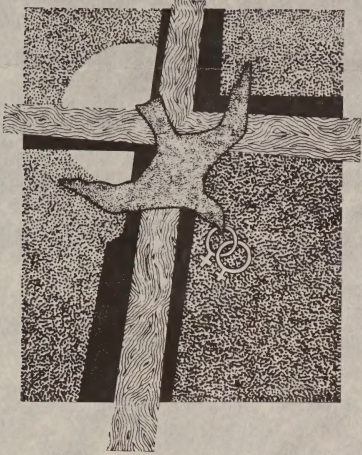
Address: _____

Please mail your order and payment to Chi Rho Press,
P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898, USA. Thank you!

Introducing *Chi Rho Cards*

A Line of Gay and Lesbian Greeting Cards from Chi Rho Press

With original artwork by talented New York artist Timothy Leetch, Chi Rho Cards are designed by and for the Lesbian and Gay community. Chi Rho Cards are printed on 100% recycled paper and are affordably priced, selling singly (for \$0.75 each), in packs of five of one design (for \$3.50), packs of ten of one design (for \$6.00), and in a special sample pack of two of each of the eight cards (for \$9.00).

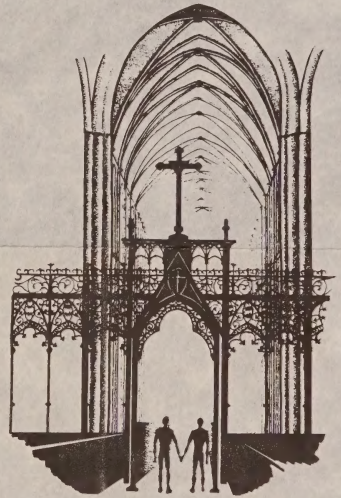


Women's Relationship Card.

A religiously-themed card for a Lesbian couple, suitable for Holy Unions, Anniversaries, or just to celebrate their relationship. Inside: "God's Blessings on Your Relationship."

Men's Relationship Card.

A religiously-themed card for your favorite Gay male couple, suitable for Holy Unions, Anniversaries, or just to celebrate their relationship. Inside: "God's Blessings on Your Relationship."

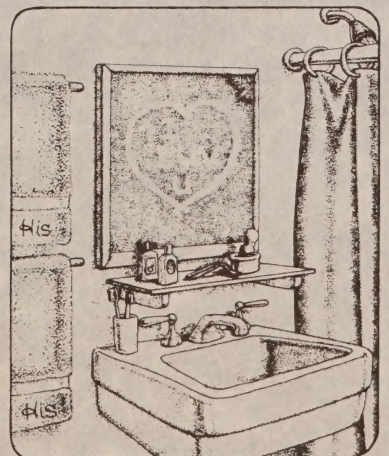


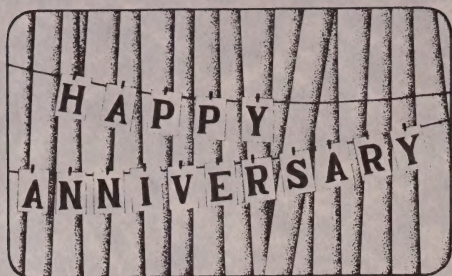
Lesbians' Anniversary Card.

Two women, very much in love, silhouetted on a seashore, make this a striking card for a Lesbian couple's anniversary. Inside: "Happy Anniversary!"

Gay Men's Anniversary Card.

An intimate scene in a Gay male couple's bathroom decorates our card to celebrate your favorite Gay couple's anniversary. Inside: "Happy Anniversary!"

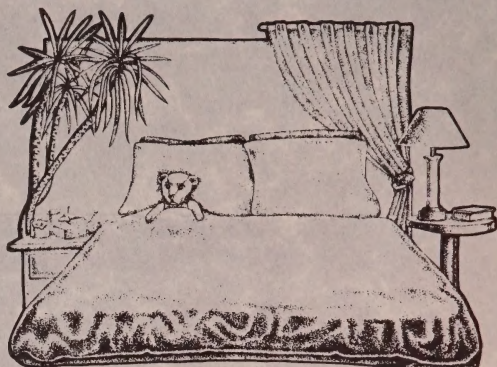




All Purpose Anniversary Card.

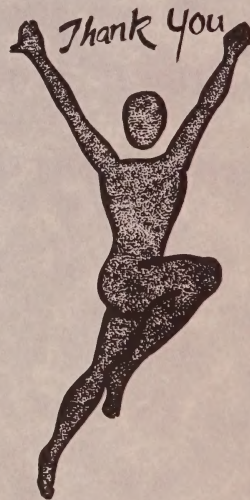
Our all purpose anniversary card is ideal to celebrate anniversaries of relationships, employment, sobriety, or any other occasion. Inside: blank, write your own specific message.

Get Well Card. Send our little bear to cheer up a friend who is ill, and speed their recovery. Inside: "I Can't Bear That You Are Ill. Get Well Soon."



Sympathy Card. An empty chair poignantly calls to mind the loss of a loved one, through death or divorce. Inside "Grieving With You at Your Loss. You are in my Prayers."

Thank You Card. Our leaping figure celebrates all that we have to be thankful for. Express your gratitude with this joyous card. Inside: blank, write your own specific message.



ORDER FORM

Choose from our eight *Chi Rho Cards*: **Women's Relationship, Men's Relationship, Lesbians' Anniversary, Gay Men's Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, and Thank You Cards.** Single cards are \$0.75 each, a pack of five of one card is \$3.50, a pack of ten of one card is \$6.00, and a special sample pack of two of each of the eight cards is \$9.00. Specify the quantity, which card(s) you want, and the price. Please make checks payable to **Chi Rho Press**, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898, USA. 301/670-1859.

_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____
_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____
_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____
_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____
_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____
_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____
_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____
_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____
_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____
_____ of _____	_____ at \$ _____

TOTAL (Make Checks Payable to **Chi Rho Press**):

\$ _____

Name: _____

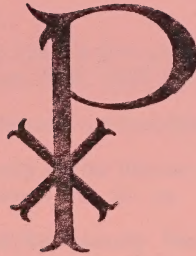
Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Mail to Chi Rho Press
P.O. Box 7864
Gaithersburg, MD 20898
301/670-1859



CHI RHO PRESS
P.O. Box 1864
Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.
301/670-1859

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anderson, George W. *A Critical Introduction to the Old Testament*. London: Gerald Duckworth and Co., Ltd., 1959. 261 pp.

Arthur, L. Robert. *Homosexuality in the Light of Biblical Language and Culture: An Evangelical Approach*. Los Angeles, Universal Fellowship Press, 1977. 10 pp.

Arthur, L. Robert. *Homosexuality and the Conservative Christian*. Los Angeles, Universal Fellowship Press, 1982. (SEC Publications) 13 pp.

Arthur, L. Robert. Personal interview and correspondence.

Bailey, Derek Sherwin. *Homosexuality and the Western Christian Tradition*. Hamden, Connecticut: Archon Books, 1975. 181 pp.

Blair, Ralph. *An Evangelical Look at Homosexuality*. New York: NCCC, Inc. No date. 11 pp.

Boswell, John. *Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1980. 424 pp.

Dana, H.E. *The New Testament World*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1937. 267 pp.

Dana, H.E. and R.E. Glaze, Jr. *Interpreting the New Testament*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1961. 165 pp.

Driver, S.R. *An Introduction to the Literature of the Old Testament*. Cleveland: World Publishing Company, 1956. 577 pp.

Filson, Floyd V. *Opening the New Testament*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1952. 224 pp.

Grant, Robert M. "History of the Interpretation of the Bible," *Interpreter's Bible, I*, pp. 106-114. New York: Abingdon Press, 1952.

Horner, Tom. *Jonathan Loved David: Homosexuality in Biblical Times*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1978. 163 pp.

McNeill, John J., S.J. *The Church and the Homosexual*. Kansas City: Sheed Andrews and McMeel, Inc., 1976. 211 pp.

CONCLUSION

This look at passages which are frequently used as weapons of condemnation may set us free to understand Scripture as God's Word for all of us. In developing a reliable understanding of these specific texts, we are free to see that Scripture has more to say to us. Every Christian can think of Scripture passages which help to form the special foundation of our own Christian lives. God speaks of love and acceptance in different ways to each of us through various passages and at different times. God combines revelation through Scripture with personal revelation through the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives.

As we come to realize that traditional condemnation has little basis in sound interpretation, it can be exciting to continue to study what the Bible does say. We read of the continuing invitation from God to love and acceptance. We read of the challenge from God to growth and wholeness. We read of the relationship with God for which we are created; of the incredible expression of love which is Jesus Christ; of the support and comfort and enabling which is God's Holy Spirit. And we read of our responsibility in Christian living.

By grace, God will transform our self-loathing. Instead of striving to be what some parts of the Church demand or what other people demand, we are free to turn to what God requires. There need no longer be an absence of joy in our lives. All that is necessary is our faith. God's norm and our only law as Christians is love:

And one of them, a lawyer, asked [Jesus] a question, testing Him, "Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?" And He said to him, "'You shall love Yahweh your God with all your heart, and all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the great and foremost commandment. And a second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the prophets."
(Matthew 22:35-40, ASV, inclusive language)

It is by this law that we are to live. It is by this law that we interpret all other laws. Indeed, we interpret all of Scripture in this light. We can bring this joyful truth to those who would condemn us. And even more, we can share it with sisters and brothers who struggle in the gloom of self-oppression and the loneliness they feel without the assurance of God's love. Not even the brief passages studied here condemn us. All of the Bible, all of God's Word, tells of love and hope. That is our Good News. Amen.

McNeill, John T. "History of the Interpretation of the Bible, Medieval and Reformation Period," *The Interpreter's Bible, I*, pp. 115-126. New York: Abingdon Press, 1952.

Pinnock, Clark H. "...This Treasure in Earthen Vessels," *Sojourners*, October 1980, pp. 16-19.

Pittenger, Norman. *Gay Lifestyles*. Los Angeles, Universal Fellowship Press, 1977. 134 pp.

Pittenger, Norman. *Homosexuals and the Bible*. Los Angeles, Universal Fellowship Press, 1977, 30 pp.

Pruitt, Carolyn D. *Fertility Worship, the Fertility Cults, and Their Relationship to Proscriptions of Homosexual Behavior in the Scriptures*. Ordination thesis, Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Los Angeles: Samaritan Education Center, 1979. 45 pp.

Pulling, Jeffrey D. *Homosexuality and the Bible*. Los Angeles, Samaritan Education Center, 1979. 13 pp.

Rowley, H.H. *The Growth of the Old Testament*. New York: Harper and Row, 1950. 192 pp.

Scroggs, Robin. *The New Testament and Homosexuality: Contextual Background for Contemporary Debate*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1983. 158 pp.

Taylor, Vincent. *The Formation of the Gospel Tradition*. London: MacMillan and Company, Ltd., 1964. 217 pp.

Terrien, Samuel. "History of the Interpretation of the Bible, Modern Period," *The Interpreter's Bible, I*, pp. 127-141. New York: Abingdon Press, 1952.

Treese, Robert L. "Homosexuality: A Contemporary View of the Biblical Perspective," in Sally Gearhart and William Johnson, *Loving Women/Loving Men*, pp. 23-58. San Francisco: Glide Publications, 1974.

Turner, Nigel. *Grammatical Insights Into the New Testament*. Edinburgh: T and T Clark, 1965. 198 pp.

Wink, Walter. "Biblical Perspectives on Homosexuality," *The Christian Century*, November 7, 1979, pp. 1082-1086. "Readers' Response," *The Christian Century*, January 2-9, 1980. pp. 20-27.

DID YOU KNOW?

News from Chi Rho Press

Chi Rho Press Has Resources for Religious Education and Small Groups

We at Chi Rho Press are proud to offer a number of books and tapes that are excellent for Christian Education classes and resources for small groups/cell groups in the local church or organization. This mailing will highlight a number of these resources for you. Prices, along with bulk rates, are listed at the end of each description.

Please order directly from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A. Send checks or money orders payable to Chi Rho Press. For our supporters outside of the U.S.A., please do not send checks, but rather send money orders only, in U.S. funds. Prepaid orders will not be charged for postage unless postage charges are indicated in the description. You may choose to be invoiced, but postage will then be added to your bill.

Check out these resources for your use:

Homosexuality Resources

INVITATION TO FREEDOM: Bible Studies in Personal Evangelism, by the Rev. Dr. Rembert S. Truluck. This excellent workbook provides tips on personal evangelism using the very popular brochure *The Bible As Your Friend: A Guide for Lesbians and Gays* as a resource, and includes chapters on a number of Bible passages that explain and encourage the work of the Great Commission for everyone. A copy of the brochure is included in each book. **Invitation to Freedom** is written in two sections, "Personal Experiences and Bible Studies on Evangelism" and "Issues in Gay and Lesbian Evangelism."

\$7.00 each, six or more copies for \$5.25 each.

THE BIBLE AND HOMOSEXUALITY, Fourth Edition, by the Rev. Michael E. England. Our very best seller ever! Many thousands of this book are in circulation. The Fourth Edition has used recent scholarship to update Reverend England's excellent study of the traditional scripture verses that have been used to condemn homosexuality. Included are chapters on our understanding of "inspiration" as it relates to the Bible; critical interpretation; textual, historical, source, and form criticism; detailed discussions about Deuteronomy 23:17-18, Genesis 19:4-11, Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13-14, I Corinthians 6:9, I Timothy 1:10, and Romans 1:26-27; the "contra naturam" (against nature) argument; heterosexual marriages as the "only Biblical model"; adultery and fornication; and a bibliography.

\$5.95 each, six or more copies for \$4.50 each.

POSITIVELY GAY: New Approaches to Gay and Lesbian Life, edited by Betty Berzon, Ph.D., with a foreword by Barney Frank, U.S. House of Representatives. The best selling **Positively Gay**, first published in 1979, has been brought up to the present by its editor, Dr. Betty Berzon, in a new edition with eleven added chapters and a new foreword by openly Gay U.S. Congressperson Barney Frank (D.Mass.).

CHI RHO PRESS; P.O. Box 7864; Gaithersburg, Maryland, 20898
301/670-1859

Positively Gay is the pre-eminent resource book for anyone, Gay or straight, who has the need to know what it means to be Gay or Lesbian in the 1990s. Topics covered in this edition include Gay male sexuality; exploring intimacy in the age of AIDS; the special experiences of Gay people of color; Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual youth; the Gay cultural scene; the corporate closet; the importance of telling our stories; developing a positive Gay identity; partnering; parenting; family relations; aging; religion; job security; financial planning; and using your voting power (by Chi Rho Press Director Adam DeBaugh). Published by Celestial Arts.

\$11.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, or \$10 for 6-15 books.

HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE, a two tape sermon series by the Rev. Arlene Ackerman, Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator of the UFMCC. This tape series is in four parts: "What Was the Sin of Sodom?", "One Out of 636 Laws," "The Sin of Rome -- What is Natural?", and "Who Will Inherit the Kingdom of God? Could it be You?"

\$12.00 for each set.

All three books and the two tapes in this section are available for a total of \$34.90 -- that's a savings of \$5.00 off the regular price of all these fine resources!

HIV/AIDS Resources

FAMILIES RE-MEMBERED: Pastoral Support for Friends and Families Living with Hiv/Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. Doctor Kavar writes that hiv/aids causes a shift in family dynamics so that families are often re-structured, enlarged and changed -- "re-membered" -- as a result of the health crisis. From a pastoral perspective, ministers and others working with people living with hiv and their families and friends need to re-member families to include family members of choice. This book explores the dynamics of family systems and the realities of extended families of choice in the context of hiv/aids. It is a much expanded second edition of Dr. Kavar's **Pastoral Ministry in the Aids Era**, published in 1988 by the College of Chaplains.

\$10.95 each, six or more copies for \$8.25 each.

"I'M STILL DANCING!" A Gay Man's Health Experience, by the Rev. A. Stephen Pieters. An important and powerful book by a long-term survivor of aids in which Reverend Pieters has compiled articles, sermons and journal entries written over a period of seven years chronicling his life with aids. Sick since 1982 and diagnosed with full-blown aids in 1984, Steve almost died from the toxic effects of an experimental drug, but his cancers have gone into complete remission and he remains well to this day. He is Field Director of the UFMCC's Aids Ministry.

\$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.

LIVING WITH LOSS: Experiencing Bereavement, with Special Attention to Hiv/Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. A wonderful basic primer on bereavement and grief, with chapters on the experience of bereavement, relationships and grief, hiv/aids and bereavement, supporting the bereaved, and an extensive bibliography.

\$4.50 each, six or more copies for \$3.50 each.

TO CELEBRATE AND TO MOURN: Liturgical Resources for Worshiping Communities Living with Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. "As people who continue to live in the midst of aids, one of our greatest resources is that of the community of faith. As believers, we are able to unite our experiences . . . sharing all of our human experiences. It is for this purpose that this resource manual has been written" (from the author's preface). Dr. Kavar discusses liturgical symbols that have special meaning in the aids crisis for churches, and provides parts of liturgies for a general service concerning aids, a service of hope in the face of aids, a healing service, a service for those living in fear, a service for a grieving community, a communal memorial service, prayers for lighting the aids vigil candle, and prayers for caregivers and researchers.

\$3.95 each, six or more copies for \$2.95 each.

All four books in this section are available for a total of \$23.35 -- that's a savings of \$5.00 off the regular price of all these fine books!

MCC Resources

THE UFMCC MISSION STATEMENT, by Virginia G. Miles and R. Adam DeBaugh. A five-part booklet adapted from sermons on the Mission Statement adopted by the UFMCC General Council in March 1989: "The UFMCC empowers people to bring Christian Salvation, Christian Community, and Christian Social Action to the world." The first chapter, by Mr. DeBaugh, tells the inspiring story of the creation of the Mission Statement by the General Council. The other four chapters, by Ms. Miles, are reflections on the elements of the statement itself.

\$2.50 each, six or more copies for \$1.75 each.

THE WHOLE CHURCH BODY BOOK: A Manual of Lay Ministry, by Jean Gralley. This classic UFMCC resource provides a history of the laity in the Christian Church, sections on understanding lay ministry, understanding clergy ministry, building team ministry, a congregation clinic, parliamentary procedure, and UFMCC structure, vocabulary and bylaws. Excellent for membership classes, discussion groups, and for getting people involved in the life and ministry of their local church. A must for boards of directors, deacons, student clergy, and ministry leaders. Essential for Commissions on the Laity. This book is an important resource for all lay people and their pastors.

\$4.95 each, six or more copies for \$3.50 each, or -- the Ecclesio-Econo-Pak! -- 10 copies for \$30.

WHAT A FELLOWSHIP, by Jean Gralley. Just for fun! MCC's first cartoon book by the favorite cartoonist in the Metropolitan Community Churches who has been entertaining MCCers for over 20 years with her witty, clever drawings. Chi Rho Press has gathered Jean's favorite cartoons in a single volume for the first time. Jean Gralley is a writer/cartoonist/book illustrator who lives in Michigan. **What a Fellowship** makes an great, fun gift!

\$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.

DON'T BE AFRAID ANYMORE: the Story of Reverend Troy Perry and the Metropolitan Community Churches, by the Rev. Troy D. Perry and Thomas L. P. Swicegood. "A deeply moving and empowering account of the single most influential Gay Christian individual and organization in the world. This book captures the pathos, the glory and the sense of humor . . . of a contemporary saint and the . . . saints (who) rallied to his prophetic call to be a church. Every Christian and every Lesbian and Gay man should read this book" (Chris Glaser). Troy Perry's story is MCC's story, told here with wit and grace.

\$12.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, or \$10 for 6-15 books.

All four books in this section are available for a total of \$28.35 -- that's a savings of \$4.00 off the regular price of all these fine books!

Christian Social Action Resources

WRITING TO CONGRESS: "Prophecy Against the Shepherds of Israel," Ezekiel 34:2, by R. Adam DeBaugh. A description of how best to write or visit your elected representatives in government, with ten tips for effective communications, and a fascinating Bible study about the responsibility of the person of faith to address his or her government. This is a third edition.

\$1.00 each, six or more copies for \$0.75 each.

IN SEARCH OF INTIMACY, a two tape sermon series by the Rev. Arlene Ackerman, UFMCC Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator. This tape series is in three parts, "Whatever Happened to the Child?", "Lack, Love and Sex," and "No Greater Love."

\$12.00 for each set.

RESTORING SPIRITUAL PASSION, a two tape sermon series by the Rev. Arlene Ackerman, UFMCC Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator. This tape series is in three parts, "Heartbreak Hill," "Seven Conditions that Threaten Spiritual Passion," and "Three Powerful Truths."

\$12.00 for each set.

The book and two tape series in this section are available for a total of \$22.75 -- that's a savings of \$2.25 off the regular price of these fine resources!

Devotionals for Individual or Group Use

THE ROAD TO EMMAUS: Daily Encounters with the Risen Christ -- An Inclusive Devotional, the Rev. Joseph W. Houle, Editor. A book of daily devotions with a Gospel reading and meditation for every day of the year, written by Gay and Lesbian Christians. This is a valuable resource for recollection and spiritual refreshment. Each meditation invites one to be attentive to the Sacred in the ordinary circumstances of our lives, to be open to the risen Christ in quiet reflection. This devotional is inclusive in language, tone, and content. Its underlying message is that the Gospel is good news for all people.

\$12.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, or \$10 for 6-15 books.

AN ALIEN IN A FOREIGN LAND, by the Rev. Jimmy Brock. Eleven sermons first preached at Joy MCC, Orlando, Florida, where the Rev. Brock pastors, which are excellent for personal or corporate devotions, the basis for Christian education classes, Bible studies, discussion groups, a guide in private meditation, or for membership classes.

\$9.95 each, six or more copies for \$7.50 each.

The two books in this section are available for a total of \$22.90 -- that's a savings of \$3.00 off the regular price of these fine books!

Stained Glass Available Too!

Chi Rho Press is pleased to present three beautiful stained glass pieces for your home or office windows, made especially for you by Adam DeBaugh.

STAINED GLASS CROSSES are simple, yet striking additions to any window. Made from five pieces of glass and measuring seven inches high and four inches wide, these crosses are hand crafted in the copper foil and solder method. The cross has an attached loop so you may hang it in any window to catch the light and remind all of the power of our faith. Please specify preferred colors, though we may not be able to match exact shades.

\$10.00 each.

STAINED GLASS LESBIAN/GAY RAINBOW FLAGS are a solid rectangle of bright red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple glass, four inches by six inches, with two loops for hanging. The rainbow flag has become an international symbol of Gay/Lesbian Pride. Show your pride!

\$18.00 each.

AIDS RIBBONS IN STAINED GLASS are made from three pieces of red, textured glass and measure three inches high. There is a loop for hanging this fitting reminder of our concern for all those affected by the hiv/aids crisis.

\$7.50 each.

Order any of the books, tape series, or stained glass directly from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898. Or call us at 301/670-1859. Thank you for your support!

Coming Soon!

In the works at Chi Rho Press are new editions of **BURNOUT** and the **CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION BIBLE STUDY ON MATTHEW 25:31-46** by R. Adam DeBaugh; a new edition of **SEX POSITIVE: A Gay Contribution to Sexual and Spiritual Union** by the late Rev. Larry Uhrig; and **CALLED OUT: The Voices and Gifts of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Presbyterians**. Watch for these exciting new books from Chi Rho Press!

DID YOU KNOW?

News from Chi Rho Press

Chi Rho Press Has Resources for Religious Education and Small Groups

We at Chi Rho Press are proud to offer a number of books and tapes that are excellent for Christian Education classes and resources for small groups/cell groups in the local church or organization. This mailing will highlight a number of these resources for you. Prices, along with bulk rates, are listed at the end of each description.

Please order directly from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A. Send checks or money orders payable to Chi Rho Press. For our supporters outside of the U.S.A., please do not send checks, but rather send money orders only, in U.S. funds. Prepaid orders will not be charged for postage unless postage charges are indicated in the description. You may choose to be invoiced, but postage will then be added to your bill.

Check out these resources for your use:

Homosexuality Resources

INVITATION TO FREEDOM: Bible Studies in Personal Evangelism, by the Rev. Dr. Rembert S. Truluck. This excellent workbook provides tips on personal evangelism using the very popular brochure *The Bible As Your Friend: A Guide for Lesbians and Gays* as a resource, and includes chapters on a number of Bible passages that explain and encourage the work of the Great Commission for everyone. A copy of the brochure is included in each book. **Invitation to Freedom** is written in two sections, "Personal Experiences and Bible Studies on Evangelism" and "Issues in Gay and Lesbian Evangelism."

\$7.00 each, six or more copies for \$5.25 each.

THE BIBLE AND HOMOSEXUALITY, Fourth Edition, by the Rev. Michael E. England. Our very best seller ever! Many thousands of this book are in circulation. The Fourth Edition has used recent scholarship to update Reverend England's excellent study of the traditional scripture verses that have been used to condemn homosexuality. Included are chapters on our understanding of "inspiration" as it relates to the Bible; critical interpretation; textual, historical, source, and form criticism; detailed discussions about Deuteronomy 23:17-18, Genesis 19:4-11, Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13-14, I Corinthians 6:9, I Timothy 1:10, and Romans 1:26-27; the "contra naturam" (against nature) argument; heterosexual marriages as the "only Biblical model"; adultery and fornication; and a bibliography.

\$5.95 each, six or more copies for \$4.50 each.

POSITIVELY GAY: New Approaches to Gay and Lesbian Life, edited by Betty Berzon, Ph.D., with a foreword by Barney Frank, U.S. House of Representatives. The best selling **Positively Gay**, first published in 1979, has been brought up to the present by its editor, Dr. Betty Berzon, in a new edition with eleven added chapters and a new foreword by openly Gay U.S. Congressperson Barney Frank (D.Mass.).

CHI RHO PRESS; P.O. Box 7864; Gaithersburg, Maryland, 20898
301/670-1859

Positively Gay is the pre-eminent resource book for anyone, Gay or straight, who has the need to know what it means to be Gay or Lesbian in the 1990s. Topics covered in this edition include Gay male sexuality; exploring intimacy in the age of AIDS; the special experiences of Gay people of color; Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual youth; the Gay cultural scene; the corporate closet; the importance of telling our stories; developing a positive Gay identity; partnering; parenting; family relations; aging; religion; job security; financial planning; and using your voting power (by Chi Rho Press Director Adam DeBaugh). Published by Celestial Arts.

\$11.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, or \$10 for 6-15 books.

HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE, a two tape sermon series by the Rev. Arlene Ackerman, Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator of the UFMCC. This tape series is in four parts: "What Was the Sin of Sodom?", "One Out of 636 Laws," "The Sin of Rome -- What is Natural?", and "Who Will Inherit the Kingdom of God? Could it be You?"

\$12.00 for each set.

All three books and the two tapes in this section are available for a total of \$34.90 -- that's a savings of \$5.00 off the regular price of all these fine resources!

HIV/AIDS Resources

FAMILIES RE-MEMBERED: Pastoral Support for Friends and Families Living with Hiv/Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. Doctor Kavar writes that hiv/aids causes a shift in family dynamics so that families are often re-structured, enlarged and changed -- "re-membered" -- as a result of the health crisis. From a pastoral perspective, ministers and others working with people living with hiv and their families and friends need to re-member families to include family members of choice. This book explores the dynamics of family systems and the realities of extended families of choice in the context of hiv/aids. It is a much expanded second edition of Dr. Kavar's **Pastoral Ministry in the Aids Era**, published in 1988 by the College of Chaplains.

\$10.95 each, six or more copies for \$8.25 each.

"I'M STILL DANCING!" A Gay Man's Health Experience, by the Rev. A. Stephen Pieters. An important and powerful book by a long-term survivor of aids in which Reverend Pieters has compiled articles, sermons and journal entries written over a period of seven years chronicling his life with aids. Sick since 1982 and diagnosed with full-blown aids in 1984, Steve almost died from the toxic effects of an experimental drug, but his cancers have gone into complete remission and he remains well to this day. He is Field Director of the UFMCC's Aids Ministry.

\$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.

LIVING WITH LOSS: Experiencing Bereavement, with Special Attention to Hiv/Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. A wonderful basic primer on bereavement and grief, with chapters on the experience of bereavement, relationships and grief, hiv/aids and bereavement, supporting the bereaved, and an extensive bibliography.

\$4.50 each, six or more copies for \$3.50 each.

TO CELEBRATE AND TO MOURN: Liturgical Resources for Worshiping Communities Living with Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. "As people who continue to live in the midst of aids, one of our greatest resources is that of the community of faith. As believers, we are able to unite our experiences . . . sharing all of our human experiences. It is for this purpose that this resource manual has been written" (from the author's preface). Dr. Kavar discusses liturgical symbols that have special meaning in the aids crisis for churches, and provides parts of liturgies for a general service concerning aids, a service of hope in the face of aids, a healing service, a service for those living in fear, a service for a grieving community, a communal memorial service, prayers for lighting the aids vigil candle, and prayers for caregivers and researchers.

\$3.95 each, six or more copies for \$2.95 each.

All four books in this section are available for a total of \$23.35 -- that's a savings of \$5.00 off the regular price of all these fine books!

MCC Resources

THE UFMCC MISSION STATEMENT, by Virginia G. Miles and R. Adam DeBaugh. A five-part booklet adapted from sermons on the Mission Statement adopted by the UFMCC General Council in March 1989: "The UFMCC empowers people to bring Christian Salvation, Christian Community, and Christian Social Action to the world." The first chapter, by Mr. DeBaugh, tells the inspiring story of the creation of the Mission Statement by the General Council. The other four chapters, by Ms. Miles, are reflections on the elements of the statement itself. **\$2.50 each, six or more copies for \$1.75 each.**

THE WHOLE CHURCH BODY BOOK: A Manual of Lay Ministry, by Jean Gralley. This classic UFMCC resource provides a history of the laity in the Christian Church, sections on understanding lay ministry, understanding clergy ministry, building team ministry, a congregation clinic, parliamentary procedure, and UFMCC structure, vocabulary and bylaws. Excellent for membership classes, discussion groups, and for getting people involved in the life and ministry of their local church. A must for boards of directors, deacons, student clergy, and ministry leaders. Essential for Commissions on the Laity. This book is an important resource for all lay people and their pastors. **\$4.95 each, six or more copies for \$3.50 each, or -- the Ecclesio-Econo-Pak! -- 10 copies for \$30.**

WHAT A FELLOWSHIP, by Jean Gralley. Just for fun! MCC's first cartoon book by the favorite cartoonist in the Metropolitan Community Churches who has been entertaining MCCers for over 20 years with her witty, clever drawings. Chi Rho Press has gathered Jean's favorite cartoons in a single volume for the first time. Jean Gralley is a writer/cartoonist/book illustrator who lives in Michigan. **What a Fellowship** makes an great, fun gift! **\$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.**

DON'T BE AFRAID ANYMORE: the Story of Reverend Troy Perry and the Metropolitan Community Churches, by the Rev. Troy D. Perry and Thomas L. P. Swicegood. "A deeply moving and empowering account of the single most influential Gay Christian individual and organization in the world. This book captures the pathos, the glory and the sense of humor . . . of a contemporary saint and the . . . saints (who) rallied to his prophetic call to be a church. Every Christian and every Lesbian and Gay man should read this book" (Chris Glaser). Troy Perry's story is MCC's story, told here with wit and grace. **\$12.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, or \$10 for 6-15 books.**

All four books in this section are available for a total of \$28.35 -- that's a savings of \$4.00 off the regular price of all these fine books!

Christian Social Action Resources

WRITING TO CONGRESS: "Prophecy Against the Shepherds of Israel," Ezekiel 34:2, by R. Adam DeBaugh. A description of how best to write or visit your elected representatives in government, with ten tips for effective communications, and a fascinating Bible study about the responsibility of the person of faith to address his or her government. This is a third edition. **\$1.00 each, six or more copies for \$0.75 each.**

IN SEARCH OF INTIMACY, a two tape sermon series by the Rev. Arlene Ackerman, UFMCC Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator. This tape series is in three parts, "Whatever Happened to the Child?", "Lack, Love and Sex," and "No Greater Love." **\$12.00 for each set.**

RESTORING SPIRITUAL PASSION, a two tape sermon series by the Rev. Arlene Ackerman, UFMCC Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator. This tape series is in three parts, "Heartbreak Hill," "Seven Conditions that Threaten Spiritual Passion," and "Three Powerful Truths." **\$12.00 for each set.**

The book and two tape series in this section are available for a total of \$22.75 -- that's a savings of \$2.25 off the regular price of these fine resources!

Devotionals for Individual or Group Use

THE ROAD TO EMMAUS: Daily Encounters with the Risen Christ -- An Inclusive Devotional, the Rev. Joseph W. Houle, Editor. A book of daily devotions with a Gospel reading and meditation for every day of the year, written by Gay and Lesbian Christians. This is a valuable resource for recollection and spiritual refreshment. Each meditation invites one to be attentive to the Sacred in the ordinary circumstances of our lives, to be open to the risen Christ in quiet reflection. This devotional is inclusive in language, tone, and content. Its underlying message is that the Gospel is good news for all people.

\$12.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, or \$10 for 6-15 books.

AN ALIEN IN A FOREIGN LAND, by the Rev. Jimmy Brock. Eleven sermons first preached at Joy MCC, Orlando, Florida, where the Rev. Brock pastors, which are excellent for personal or corporate devotions, the basis for Christian education classes, Bible studies, discussion groups, a guide in private meditation, or for membership classes.

\$9.95 each, six or more copies for \$7.50 each.

The two books in this section are available for a total of \$22.90 -- that's a savings of \$3.00 off the regular price of these fine books!

Stained Glass Available Too!

Chi Rho Press is pleased to present three beautiful stained glass pieces for your home or office windows, made especially for you by Adam DeBaugh.

STAINED GLASS CROSSES are simple, yet striking additions to any window. Made from five pieces of glass and measuring seven inches high and four inches wide, these crosses are hand crafted in the copper foil and solder method. The cross has an attached loop so you may hang it in any window to catch the light and remind all of the power of our faith. Please specify preferred colors, though we may not be able to match exact shades.

\$10.00 each.

STAINED GLASS LESBIAN/GAY RAINBOW FLAGS are a solid rectangle of bright red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple glass, four inches by six inches, with two loops for hanging. The rainbow flag has become an international symbol of Gay/Lesbian Pride. Show your pride!

\$18.00 each.

AIDS RIBBONS IN STAINED GLASS are made from three pieces of red, textured glass and measure three inches high. There is a loop for hanging this fitting reminder of our concern for all those affected by the hiv/aids crisis.

\$7.50 each.

Order any of the books, tape series, or stained glass directly from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898. Or call us at 301/670-1859. Thank you for your support!

Coming Soon!

In the works at Chi Rho Press are new editions of **BURNOUT** and the **CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION BIBLE STUDY ON MATTHEW 25:31-46** by R. Adam DeBaugh; a new edition of **SEX POSITIVE: A Gay Contribution to Sexual and Spiritual Union** by the late Rev. Larry Uhrig; and **CALLED OUT: The Voices and Gifts of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Presbyterians**. Watch for these exciting new books from Chi Rho Press!

DID YOU KNOW?

News from Chi Rho Press

Chi Rho Press Has Resources for Religious Education and Small Groups

We at Chi Rho Press are proud to offer a number of books and tapes that are excellent for Christian Education classes and resources for small groups/cell groups in the local church or organization. This mailing will highlight a number of these resources for you. Prices, along with bulk rates, are listed at the end of each description.

Please order directly from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A. Send checks or money orders payable to Chi Rho Press. For our supporters outside of the U.S.A., please do not send checks, but rather send money orders only, in U.S. funds. Prepaid orders will not be charged for postage unless postage charges are indicated in the description. You may choose to be invoiced, but postage will then be added to your bill.

Check out these resources for your use:

Homosexuality Resources

INVITATION TO FREEDOM: Bible Studies in Personal Evangelism, by the Rev. Dr. Rembert S. Truluck. This excellent workbook provides tips on personal evangelism using the very popular brochure *The Bible As Your Friend: A Guide for Lesbians and Gays* as a resource, and includes chapters on a number of Bible passages that explain and encourage the work of the Great Commission for everyone. A copy of the brochure is included in each book. **Invitation to Freedom** is written in two sections, "Personal Experiences and Bible Studies on Evangelism" and "Issues in Gay and Lesbian Evangelism."

\$7.00 each, six or more copies for \$5.25 each.

THE BIBLE AND HOMOSEXUALITY, Fourth Edition, by the Rev. Michael E. England. Our very best seller ever! Many thousands of this book are in circulation. The Fourth Edition has used recent scholarship to update Reverend England's excellent study of the traditional scripture verses that have been used to condemn homosexuality. Included are chapters on our understanding of "inspiration" as it relates to the Bible; critical interpretation; textual, historical, source, and form criticism; detailed discussions about Deuteronomy 23:17-18, Genesis 19:4-11, Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13-14, I Corinthians 6:9, I Timothy 1:10, and Romans 1:26-27; the "contra naturam" (against nature) argument; heterosexual marriages as the "only Biblical model"; adultery and fornication; and a bibliography.

\$5.95 each, six or more copies for \$4.50 each.

POSITIVELY GAY: New Approaches to Gay and Lesbian Life, edited by Betty Berzon, Ph.D., with a foreword by Barney Frank, U.S. House of Representatives. The best selling **Positively Gay**, first published in 1979, has been brought up to the present by its editor, Dr. Betty Berzon, in a new edition with eleven added chapters and a new foreword by openly Gay U.S. Congressperson Barney Frank (D.Mass.).

CHI RHO PRESS; P.O. Box 7864; Gaithersburg, Maryland, 20898
301/670-1859

Positively Gay is the pre-eminent resource book for anyone, Gay or straight, who has the need to know what it means to be Gay or Lesbian in the 1990s. Topics covered in this edition include Gay male sexuality; exploring intimacy in the age of AIDS; the special experiences of Gay people of color; Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual youth; the Gay cultural scene; the corporate closet; the importance of telling our stories; developing a positive Gay identity; partnering; parenting; family relations; aging; religion; job security; financial planning; and using your voting power (by Chi Rho Press Director Adam DeBaugh). Published by Celestial Arts.

\$11.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, or \$10 for 6-15 books.

HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE, a two tape sermon series by the Rev. Arlene Ackerman, Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator of the UFMCC. This tape series is in four parts: "What Was the Sin of Sodom?", "One Out of 636 Laws," "The Sin of Rome -- What is Natural?", and "Who Will Inherit the Kingdom of God? Could it be You?"

\$12.00 for each set.

All three books and the two tapes in this section are available for a total of \$34.90 -- that's a savings of \$5.00 off the regular price of all these fine resources!

HIV/AIDS Resources

FAMILIES RE-MEMBERED: Pastoral Support for Friends and Families Living with Hiv/Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. Doctor Kavar writes that hiv/aids causes a shift in family dynamics so that families are often re-structured, enlarged and changed -- "re-membered" -- as a result of the health crisis. From a pastoral perspective, ministers and others working with people living with hiv and their families and friends need to re-member families to include family members of choice. This book explores the dynamics of family systems and the realities of extended families of choice in the context of hiv/aids. It is a much expanded second edition of Dr. Kavar's **Pastoral Ministry in the Aids Era**, published in 1988 by the College of Chaplains.

\$10.95 each, six or more copies for \$8.25 each.

"I'M STILL DANCING!" A Gay Man's Health Experience, by the Rev. A. Stephen Pieters. An important and powerful book by a long-term survivor of aids in which Reverend Pieters has compiled articles, sermons and journal entries written over a period of seven years chronicling his life with aids. Sick since 1982 and diagnosed with full-blown aids in 1984, Steve almost died from the toxic effects of an experimental drug, but his cancers have gone into complete remission and he remains well to this day. He is Field Director of the UFMCC's Aids Ministry.

\$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.

LIVING WITH LOSS: Experiencing Bereavement, with Special Attention to Hiv/Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. A wonderful basic primer on bereavement and grief, with chapters on the experience of bereavement, relationships and grief, hiv/aids and bereavement, supporting the bereaved, and an extensive bibliography.

\$4.50 each, six or more copies for \$3.50 each.

TO CELEBRATE AND TO MOURN: Liturgical Resources for Worshipping Communities Living with Aids, by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D. "As people who continue to live in the midst of aids, one of our greatest resources is that of the community of faith. As believers, we are able to unite our experiences . . . sharing all of our human experiences. It is for this purpose that this resource manual has been written" (from the author's preface). Dr. Kavar discusses liturgical symbols that have special meaning in the aids crisis for churches, and provides parts of liturgies for a general service concerning aids, a service of hope in the face of aids, a healing service, a service for those living in fear, a service for a grieving community, a communal memorial service, prayers for lighting the aids vigil candle, and prayers for caregivers and researchers.

\$3.95 each, six or more copies for \$2.95 each.

All four books in this section are available for a total of \$23.35 -- that's a savings of \$5.00 off the regular price of all these fine books!

MCC Resources

THE UFMCC MISSION STATEMENT, by Virginia G. Miles and R. Adam DeBaugh. A five-part booklet adapted from sermons on the Mission Statement adopted by the UFMCC General Council in March 1989: "The UFMCC empowers people to bring Christian Salvation, Christian Community, and Christian Social Action to the world." The first chapter, by Mr. DeBaugh, tells the inspiring story of the creation of the Mission Statement by the General Council. The other four chapters, by Ms. Miles, are reflections on the elements of the statement itself.

\$2.50 each, six or more copies for \$1.75 each.

THE WHOLE CHURCH BODY BOOK: A Manual of Lay Ministry, by Jean Gralley. This classic UFMCC resource provides a history of the laity in the Christian Church, sections on understanding lay ministry, understanding clergy ministry, building team ministry, a congregation clinic, parliamentary procedure, and UFMCC structure, vocabulary and bylaws. Excellent for membership classes, discussion groups, and for getting people involved in the life and ministry of their local church. A must for boards of directors, deacons, student clergy, and ministry leaders. Essential for Commissions on the Laity. This book is an important resource for all lay people and their pastors.

\$4.95 each, six or more copies for \$3.50 each, or -- the Ecclesio-Econo-Pak! -- 10 copies for \$30.

WHAT A FELLOWSHIP, by Jean Gralley. Just for fun! MCC's first cartoon book by the favorite cartoonist in the Metropolitan Community Churches who has been entertaining MCCers for over 20 years with her witty, clever drawings. Chi Rho Press has gathered Jean's favorite cartoons in a single volume for the first time. Jean Gralley is a writer/cartoonist/book illustrator who lives in Michigan. **What a Fellowship** makes an great, fun gift!

\$8.95 each, six or more copies for \$6.75 each.

DON'T BE AFRAID ANYMORE: the Story of Reverend Troy Perry and the Metropolitan Community Churches, by the Rev. Troy D. Perry and Thomas L. P. Swicegood. "A deeply moving and empowering account of the single most influential Gay Christian individual and organization in the world. This book captures the pathos, the glory and the sense of humor . . . of a contemporary saint and the . . . saints (who) rallied to his prophetic call to be a church. Every Christian and every Lesbian and Gay man should read this book" (Chris Glaser). Troy Perry's story is MCC's story, told here with wit and grace.

\$12.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, or \$10 for 6-15 books.

All four books in this section are available for a total of \$28.35 -- that's a savings of \$4.00 off the regular price of all these fine books!

Christian Social Action Resources

WRITING TO CONGRESS: "Prophecy Against the Shepherds of Israel," Ezekiel 34:2, by R. Adam DeBaugh. A description of how best to write or visit your elected representatives in government, with ten tips for effective communications, and a fascinating Bible study about the responsibility of the person of faith to address his or her government. This is a third edition.

\$1.00 each, six or more copies for \$0.75 each.

IN SEARCH OF INTIMACY, a two tape sermon series by the Rev. Arlene Ackerman, UFMCC Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator. This tape series is in three parts, "Whatever Happened to the Child?", "Lack, Love and Sex," and "No Greater Love."

\$12.00 for each set.

RESTORING SPIRITUAL PASSION, a two tape sermon series by the Rev. Arlene Ackerman, UFMCC Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator. This tape series is in three parts, "Heartbreak Hill," "Seven Conditions that Threaten Spiritual Passion," and "Three Powerful Truths."

\$12.00 for each set.

The book and two tape series in this section are available for a total of \$22.75 -- that's a savings of \$2.25 off the regular price of these fine resources!

Devotionals for Individual or Group Use

THE ROAD TO EMMAUS: Daily Encounters with the Risen Christ -- An Inclusive Devotional, the Rev. Joseph W. Houle, Editor. A book of daily devotions with a Gospel reading and meditation for every day of the year, written by Gay and Lesbian Christians. This is a valuable resource for recollection and spiritual refreshment. Each meditation invites one to be attentive to the Sacred in the ordinary circumstances of our lives, to be open to the risen Christ in quiet reflection. This devotional is inclusive in language, tone, and content. Its underlying message is that the Gospel is good news for all people.

\$12.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, or \$10 for 6-15 books.

AN ALIEN IN A FOREIGN LAND, by the Rev. Jimmy Brock. Eleven sermons first preached at Joy MCC, Orlando, Florida, where the Rev. Brock pastors, which are excellent for personal or corporate devotions, the basis for Christian education classes, Bible studies, discussion groups, a guide in private meditation, or for membership classes.

\$9.95 each, six or more copies for \$7.50 each.

The two books in this section are available for a total of \$22.90 -- that's a savings of \$3.00 off the regular price of these fine books!

Stained Glass Available Too!

Chi Rho Press is pleased to present three beautiful stained glass pieces for your home or office windows, made especially for you by Adam DeBaugh.

STAINED GLASS CROSSES are simple, yet striking additions to any window. Made from five pieces of glass and measuring seven inches high and four inches wide, these crosses are hand crafted in the copper foil and solder method. The cross has an attached loop so you may hang it in any window to catch the light and remind all of the power of our faith. Please specify preferred colors, though we may not be able to match exact shades.

\$10.00 each.

STAINED GLASS LESBIAN/GAY RAINBOW FLAGS are a solid rectangle of bright red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple glass, four inches by six inches, with two loops for hanging. The rainbow flag has become an international symbol of Gay/Lesbian Pride. Show your pride!

\$18.00 each.

AIDS RIBBONS IN STAINED GLASS are made from three pieces of red, textured glass and measure three inches high. There is a loop for hanging this fitting reminder of our concern for all those affected by the hiv/aids crisis.

\$7.50 each.

Order any of the books, tape series, or stained glass directly from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898. Or call us at 301/670-1859. Thank you for your support!

Coming Soon!

In the works at Chi Rho Press are new editions of **BURNOUT** and the **CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION BIBLE STUDY ON MATTHEW 25:31-46** by R. Adam DeBaugh; a new edition of **SEX POSITIVE: A Gay Contribution to Sexual and Spiritual Union** by the late Rev. Larry Uhrig; and **CALLED OUT: The Voices and Gifts of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Presbyterians**. Watch for these exciting new books from Chi Rho Press!



CHI RHO PRESS

A Special Work of the UFMCC Mid-Atlantic District

P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.

301/670-1859

R. Adam DeBaugh, Director

31 January 1994

TO: All MCC congregations and clergy

FROM: R. Adam DeBaugh, Director, Chi Rho Press

1993 was our best year ever at Chi Rho Press, thanks in part to your support. We topped our 1992 income at the end of July and went on to have a yearly total income of 173.5% over the 1992 total. Thank you for your support and interest in our ministry. As a Special Work of the UFMCC Mid-Atlantic District we take being an MCC publishing house very seriously. We pledge to continue to provide quality, affordable material for MCCs and other Gay and Lesbian religious organizations and ministries. We covet your prayers (and your orders!) in 1994 and beyond.

Let me highlight a few of our books we think will be of value to you in your ministry:

Invitation to Freedom: Bible Studies in Personal Evangelism by the Rev. Dr. Rembert S. Truluck. This is a valuable resource for small group discussion and Bible study, ideal curriculum for cell groups in growing churches. Enclosed is a personal letter from Buddy Truluck about his book along with an order form. The price is \$7.00 each, \$5.25 each for six or more copies.

The Whole Church Body Book: A Manual of Lay Ministry, by Jean Gralley. This MCC classic has been reissued by Chi Rho Press in a new printing, corrected and updated for the first time in years. This book is essential for all lay delegates, deacons, board members and lay leaders in your church. The price is \$4.95 each, \$3.50 each for six or more copies. We also have a special *ecclesio-econo-pack* of 10 copies for \$30!

What a Fellowship: A Cartoon Collection, by Jean Gralley. This is MCC's first book of cartoons, by the very popular cartoonist whose work appears regularly in *Keeping in Touch* and other MCC publications. Chi Rho Press has gathered Jean's favorite cartoons in one volume for the first time. The price is \$8.95 each, \$6.75 each for six or more copies, use the enclosed order form.

Families Re-Membered: Pastoral Support for Friends and Families Living with Hiv/Aids, by the Rev. Dr. Louis F. Kavar. This is the much-expanded second edition of Lou's **Pastoral Ministry**

in the Aids Era and is an extremely valuable book for all those dealing pastorally with people living with Hiv/Aids and their friends and families. The price is \$10.95 each, \$8.25 each for six or more copies.

Chi Rho Press has also become the sole distributor of **The Road to Emmaus: Daily Encounters with the Risen Christ**, a book of daily devotions edited by the Rev. Joseph Houle, director of Emmaus House of Prayer. **The Road to Emmaus** contains 365 Gospel readings and devotions written by and for the Lesbian/Gay Christian community. Inclusive in language, tone and content, this book is used by thousands of people over and over again. The price is \$12.95 each, plus shipping and handling of \$3.00 for 1-2 books, \$5 for 3-5 books, and \$10 for 6-15 books. Ten or more copies are \$11 each.

As a service to MCC congregations, Chi Rho Press continues to make UFMCC Church Services brochures available for 19 cents each, regardless of the number ordered. Use the enclosed order form. The titles include *Homosexuality: What the Bible Does and Does Not Say*, *The Universal Fellowship Today*, *Why We Are A Fellowship*, *Inclusive Language*, *Aids: Is it God's Judgement?*, *Aids: A Christian Response*, *Spiritual Strength for Survival*, *Homosexuality: Not a Sin, Not a Sickness*, *Homosexuality: The Bible as Your Friend*, and *Homosexuality: Our Story Too -- Lesbians and Gay Men in the Bible*.

Have you seen our **Chi Rho Cards**? We have eight different cards available individually for 75 cents each, in packs of five of one design for \$3.50, packs of ten of one design for \$6.00, and in a special sample pack of two of each of the eight cards for \$9.00. A brochure is enclosed.

Lastly, we have new stained glass pieces to brighten your home or office. We continue to have *the stained glass crosses* for \$10 each. They measure seven inches high and four inches wide and you may specify preferred colors. We now also have two new pieces. The first is a *stained glass Lesbian/Gay rainbow flag*, a solid rectangle of bright red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple glass, four inches by six inches, with two loops for hanging, for only \$18. The second new piece is a *red Aids ribbon* made from three pieces of stained glass, measuring three inches high, for only \$5.00.

We look forward to hearing from you -- hopefully with an order! Use the order forms for **Invitation to Freedom**, **What a Fellowship**, *the UFMCC Brochures*, and *the Chi Rho Cards*, and order the other books directly by name by phone or mail.

And as always we covet the prayers and support of our colleagues throughout the UFMCC. May God be with you in a very special way this year and always.

The Metropolitan Community Church

P. O. Box 60406

Nashville, Tennessee 37206

(615) 262-0922



Rev. Dr. Rembert S. Truluck, Senior Pastor

January 1994

My dear friends:

On Sunday, October 31, 1993, I began serving as Senior Pastor of MCC Nashville, Tennessee. I need your prayers. Many people in Nashville and in other MCC congregations have agreed to pray with me each day at noon (Nashville time) for God's special guidance and strength in this new ministry. I hope that you will join me in this prayer ministry.

Let me know if you would like to receive the MCC Nashville newsletter and if you want me to keep you informed about the progress of my ministry.

Enclosed is a flyer about, *INVITATION TO FREEDOM*, my book of Bible Studies and Experiences of Personal Evangelism in MCC, published by Chi Rho Press in July, 1993. My second book, *LIVING IN FREEDOM: Bible Studies on Recovery from Bible Abuse and Religious Oppression, Escape from Bigotry, and Freedom from Fear*, will be published by Chi Rho Press later this year. Both of these books are in a format that makes them especially useful for small group and individual study.

I am preparing study guide booklets to be published by Chi Rho Press on how to use both of my books in small group discipleship studies. These first two books are my attempt to provide relevant in depth Bible study materials to help all Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Christians "Always to be prepared to explain to anyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence."

It seems to me that our hope for the future in MCC is in our profound and unswerving commitment to follow Jesus as given to us in the Gospels by our becoming equipped for effective personal evangelism that is followed up by training in Christian discipleship based on accurate Bible study applied to the real life issues that we face. Please pray for me in my continuing ministry of writing and teaching as well as for my new ministry as Pastor at MCC Nashville. My prayers are with you.

Yours sincerely,

Rembert S. Truluck

***MCC's First Book on
Personal Evangelism!***

**Invitation to Freedom
Bible Studies in Personal
Evangelism**

by the Rev. Dr. Rembert S. Truluck

Dr. Buddy Truluck has written an incredibly valuable workbook to accompany his very popular brochure *The Bible As Your Friend: A Guide for Lesbians and Gays*. This brochure, published by the UFMCC Department of Church Services in 1991, has been used extensively to assist in bringing Gay and Lesbian people to Christ.

Invitation to Freedom provides tips on personal evangelism, using *The Bible As Your Friend* as a resource, and including chapters on a number of Bible passages that explain and encourage the work of the Great Commission for everyone.

Written in two sections, **Invitation to Freedom** includes Personal Experiences and Bible Studies on Evangelism and Issues in Gay and Lesbian Evangelism.

Invitation to Freedom is available from Chi Rho Press for \$7.00 each. Six or more copies are \$5.25 each. Order yours today!

Invitation to Freedom

Bible Studies in Personal Evangelism

by the Rev. Dr. Rembert S. Truluck

**\$7.00 each; \$5.25 each for
six or more copies.**

Yes! I want to order Dr. Buddy Truluck's workbook on personal evangelism, **Invitation to Freedom: Bible Studies in Personal Evangelism.**

Please send me _____ copies of **Invitation to Freedom.** I enclose \$_____ for _____ copies.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Please send checks or money orders (in U.S. funds) payable to:

Chi Rho Press
P.O. Box 7864
Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.
301/670-1859

Prepaid orders will not be charged for postage. You may choose to be invoiced, but postage will then be added to your bill. Thank you!

WOW!

MCC's First Cartoon Book!

What a Fellowship

by Jean Gralley

The favorite cartoonist in the Metropolitan Community Churches, Jean Gralley has been entertaining MCCers for over 20 years with her witty, clever drawings. Now, Chi Rho Press has gathered Jean's favorite cartoons in a single volume for the first time.

Many of these cartoons first appeared in publications of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches such as *Keeping in Touch*, *In Unity*, and *Journey Magazine*, as well as Jean's well-known Manual for Lay Ministry, *The Whole Church Body Book* (recently published in a bright new edition by Chi Rho Press). They are together now for the first time in one volume.

Jean Gralley is a writer/cartoonist/book illustrator who lives in Michigan. She is the author of *The Whole Church Body Book*.

What a Fellowship is available from Chi Rho Press for \$8.95 each. Six or more copies are \$6.75 each. Order yours today!

What a Fellowship, by Jean Gralley, is MCC's first book of cartoons. They make excellent gifts for your favorite MCCers.

What a Fellowship

by Jean Gralley



\$8.95 each; \$6.75 each for six or more copies.

Yes! I want to order Jean Gralley's book of cartoons, ***What a Fellowship***.

Please send me _____ copies of ***What a Fellowship***. I enclose \$_____ for _____ copies.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Please send checks or money orders (in U.S. funds) payable to:

Chi Rho Press

P.O. Box 7864

Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.

301/670-1859

Prepaid orders will not be charged for postage. You may choose to be invoiced, but postage will then be added to your bill. Thank you!

ORDER FORM

UFMCC Church Services Department Brochures

(All UFMCC Church Services Brochures are \$.19 each from Chi Rho Press. Postage is included.)

_____ copies of **Homosexuality: What the Bible Does and Does Not Say** _____

_____ copies of **The Universal Fellowship Today** _____

_____ copies of **Why We Are a Fellowship** _____

_____ copies of **Inclusive Language** _____

_____ copies of **Aids: Is It God's Judgement?** _____

_____ copies of **Aids: A Christian Response** _____

_____ copies of **Spiritual Strength for Survival** _____

_____ copies of **Homosexuality: Not a Sin, Not a Sickness** _____

_____ copies of **Homosexuality: The Bible as Your Friend** _____

_____ copies of **Homosexuality: Our Story Too** _____

GRAND TOTAL: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Please send checks (in U.S. funds) payable to

**Chi Rho Press
P.O. Box 7864
Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.
301/670-1859**

Prepaid orders will not be charged for postage. You may choose to be invoiced, but postage will then be added to your bill.

Thank you!

UFMCC Church Services Department Brochures

Chi Rho Press is pleased to be able to offer important brochures from the UFMCC Church Services Department in Los Angeles, California, at a special low rate for congregations and organizations. These brochures are available for 19 cents each, regardless of the number ordered, with postage included in this low price (unless payment does not accompany the order). Extremely useful as handouts for first-time attenders, membership classes, Bible studies, discussion groups, and Gay/Lesbian Pride Celebrations, every MCC congregation should stock up on them!

Current Titles

**Homosexuality: What the Bible Does
and Does Not Say**

The Universal Fellowship Today

Why We Are a Fellowship

Inclusive Language

Aids: Is It God's Judgement?

Aids: A Christian Response

**Spiritual Strength for Survival -- Find-
ing Hope to be Fully Alive with
HIV/AIDS**

**Homosexuality: Not a Sin, Not a
Sickness**

**Homosexuality: The Bible as Your
Friend -- A Guide for Lesbians
and Gays**

**Homosexuality: Our Story Too --
Lesbians and Gay Men in the
Bible**

Chi Rho Press is Pleased to Announce the Publication of
"THE LEAST OF THESE"
A Christian Social Action Bible Study on Matthew 25:31-46
by R. Adam DeBaugh

This Bible study on Matthew 25:31-46 was originally written in 1984 for a seven-week Epiphany series. It was used throughout the UFMCC during the 1985 Epiphany season. Now rewritten for use throughout the church year, this seven part Bible study is perfect for small groups, cell groups, discussion groups, and Christian education classes. The author was Director of UFMCC's Department of Christian Social Action for 11 years. It is a powerful study series on a vital Biblical mandate for all Christian social action ministries. \$2.00 each, six or more copies are \$1.50 each.

Order yours today!

***"Truly, I Say to You, as You Did it to One of the Least of
These My Sisters and Brothers, You Did it to Me." Matthew 25:40.***

Order "The Least of These" Today!

Only \$2.00 each. Six or more are \$1.50 each.

Please send me _____ copies of "The Least of These". I enclose \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

**Order from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD
20898, U.S.A. 301/670-1859. *Thank you!***

**Chi Rho Press is Proud to Announce the Publication of
The LITURGICAL CALENDAR for the 1995 Church Year
Especially for Use in the Metropolitan Community Churches
Beginning with Advent 1994 and Keyed to the Common Lectionary Year "C"
All Student Clergy, Deacons, Lay Pastors, and Worship Leaders should have a copy.
Order yours today!**

This Volume, compiled by the Rev. Joseph H. Gilbert, pastor of MCC Silver Lake, Los Angeles, California, contains lectionary readings for Sundays and other Christian Holidays beginning with the first Sunday in Advent, Nov. 27, 1994, and going through the Church year, including the Advent and Christmas Seasons in 1995 (Dec. 3 through 31, 1995) in Year "A". The 20-page booklet is a handy 4 ½" by 11" size and is available for \$3.00 each. Six or more copies are \$2.25 each.

"Lectionaries keep us preachers honest." The Rev. Larry J. Uhrig

Order Your Liturgical Calendar for the 1994-1995 Church Year Today!

Only \$3.00 each. Six or more are \$2.25 each.

Please send me _____ copies of the 1994/1995 Liturgical Calendar. I enclose \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

**Order from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD
20898, U.S.A. 301/670-1859. *Thank you!***

***"Truly, I Say to You, as You Did it to One of the Least of
These My Sisters and Brothers, You Did it to Me." Matthew 25:40.***

Order "The Least of These" Today!

Only \$2.00 each. Six or more are \$1.50 each.

Please send me _____ copies of "The Least of These". I enclose \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

**Order from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD
20898, U.S.A. 301/670-1859. *Thank you!***

Chi Rho Press is Pleased to Announce the Publication of
"THE LEAST OF THESE"
A Christian Social Action Bible Study on Matthew 25:31-46
by R. Adam DeBaugh

This Bible study on Matthew 25:31-46 was originally written in 1984 for a seven-week Epiphany series. It was used throughout the UFMCC during the 1985 Epiphany season. Now rewritten for use throughout the church year, this seven part Bible study is perfect for small groups, cell groups, discussion groups, and Christian education classes. The author was Director of UFMCC's Department of Christian Social Action for 11 years. It is a powerful study series on a vital Biblical mandate for all Christian social action ministries. \$2.00 each, six or more copies are \$1.50 each.

Order yours today!

**NEW
FROM
CHI RHO
PRESS
JUST FOR
YOU**

**Chi Rho Press
P.O. Box 7864
Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.
301/670-1859**

FAMILIES RE-MEMBERED

Pastoral Support for Friends and Families Living with Hiv/Aids

by the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D.

Dr. Louis F. Kavar writes that hiv/aids causes a shift in family dynamics so that families are often re-structured, enlarged and changed -- "re-membered" -- as a result of the health crisis. From a pastoral perspective, ministers and others working with people living with hiv and their families and friends need to re-member families to include family members of choice. This book explores the dynamics of family systems and the realities of extended families of choice in the context of hiv/aids. It is a much expanded second edition of Dr. Kavar's **Pastoral Ministry in the Aids Era**, published in 1988 by the College of Chaplains.

Dr. Kavar is Field Director for the Global Outreach program of World Church Extension for the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Beginning in 1983, he began his extensive involvement in hiv/aids ministries in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He holds a Master of Arts degree from the Institute of Formative Spirituality at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, in spirituality, and a Doctorate of Philosophy from the School of Education at the University of Pittsburgh in counseling.

\$10.95 each

\$8.25 each for six or more copies

THE WHOLE CHURCH BODY BOOK

A Manual of Lay Ministry

by Jean Gralley

A new printing of a classic UFMCC resource which has been unavailable for years. **The Whole Church Body Book** provides a history of the laity in the Christian Church, sections on understanding lay ministry, understanding clergy ministry, building team ministry, a congregation clinic, parliamentary procedure, and UFMCC structure, vocabulary and Bylaws. Excellent for Membership Classes, discussion groups, and for getting people involved in the life and ministry of their local church. A must for boards of directors, deacons, student clergy, and ministry leaders. Essential for District Commissions on the Laity and EXCEL teams. This book is an important resource for all lay people and their pastors.

Last published in 1987 as a ministry of the UFMCC Commission on the Laity and EXCEL International, **The Whole Church Body Book** has been edited, polished, and published anew by Chi Rho Press, working closely with the author.

\$4.95 each

\$3.50 each for six or more copies

Packets of 10 copies for \$30.00

POSITIVELY GAY

New Approaches to Gay and Lesbian Life

**Edited by Betty Berzon, Ph.D.
with a Foreward by Barney Frank,
U.S. House of Representatives**

The bestselling **Positively Gay**, first published in 1979, has been brought up to the present by its editor Dr. Betty Berzon, in a new edition with eleven added chapters and a Foreward by U.S. Congressperson Barney Frank (D. Mass.)

In these times when the Gay issue is before the American public on a daily basis, **Positively Gay** is the pre-eminent resource book for anyone, Gay or straight, who has the need to know what it means to be Gay or Lesbian in the 1990s.

For fourteen years **Positively Gay** has been a major source of information and guidance for thousands of Gay and Lesbian people, their families and friends. Now it is more valuable than ever.

New topics covered in this expanded edition include Gay male sexuality; exploring intimacy in the age of aids; changing relationships between Gay men and Lesbians coping with aids; the special experiences of Gay people of color; Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual youth; the Gay cultural scene; the corporate closet; and the importance of telling our stories. The original chapters have been updated and revised dealing with developing a positive Gay identity, partnering, parenting, family relations, aging, religion, job security, financial planning, and using your voting power (by Chi Rho Press director Adam DeBaugh).

\$11.95 each

ORDER FORM

_____ copies of **Families Re-Membered** (\$10.95 each, \$8.25 each for six or more copies) _____

_____ copies of **The Whole Church Body Book** (\$4.95 each, \$3.50 each for six or more copies, packets of 10 for \$30.) _____

_____ copies of **Positively Gay**, published by Celestial Arts (\$11.95 each) _____

_____ copies of **Don't Be Afraid Anymore** in paperback (\$12.95 each) _____

_____ copies of **An Alien in a Foreign Land** (\$9.95 each, \$7.50 each for six or more copies.) _____

_____ copies of **Sex Positive**, first edition, signed by the author (\$3.95 each) _____

_____ copies of Rev. Ackerman's **Homosexuality and the Bible** sermon series (\$12.00 each) _____

_____ copies of Rev. Ackerman's **In Search of Intimacy** sermon series (\$12.00 each) _____

_____ copies of Rev. Ackerman's **Restoring Spiritual Passion** sermon series (\$12.00 each) _____

_____ sets of all three of Rev. Ackerman's sermon series (\$30.00 for all three series) _____

_____ I want to support the ministry of Chi Rho Press. Here is my tax-deductible gift of: _____

Please send checks (in U.S. funds) payable to:

Chi Rho Press

P.O. Box 7864

Gaithersburg, MD 20898, U.S.A.

301/670-1859

Prepaid orders will not be charged for postage. You may choose to be invoiced, but postage will then be added to your bill. *Thank you!*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Country: _____

Three Sermon Series From The Rev. Arlene Ackerman

The Rev. Arlene Ackerman is Mid-Atlantic District Coordinator and former pastor of All God's Children MCC in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She has prepared cassette tapes of three of her most popular sermon series. Now Chi Rho Press is distributing these excellent resources. The sermon series are:

Homosexuality and the Bible

In four parts: "What Was the Sin of Sodom?", "One Out of 636 Laws," "The Sin of Rome -- What is Natural?", and "Who Will Inherit the Kingdom of God? Could it be You?"

In Search of Intimacy

In three parts: "What Ever Happened to the Child?", "Lack, Love and Sex," and "No Greater Love."

Restoring Spiritual Passion

In three parts: "Heartbreak Hill," "Seven Conditions that Threaten Spiritual Passion," and "Three Powerful Truths."

**\$12.00 for each Sermon Series
\$30.00 for all three**

DON'T BE AFRAID ANYMORE

The Story of Reverend Troy Perry and the Metropolitan Community Churches

**by the Rev. Troy D. Perry and
Thomas L. P. Swicegood**

Now in paperback! "A deeply moving and empowering account of the single most influential Gay Christian individual and organization in the world." (Chris Glaser)

Originally Chi Rho Press had obtained the hard cover edition from St. Martin's Press, but now all that are available are the new soft-cover editions. These are now available from Chi Rho Press for \$12.95 (not the \$15.00 listed in previous catalogs).

\$12.95 each

AN ALIEN IN A FOREIGN LAND

by the Rev. Jimmy Brock

Eleven sermons first preached at Joy MCC, Orlando, Florida, where Rev. Brock pastors, which are excellent for personal or corporate devotions, the basis for Christian education classes, Bible studies, discussion groups, a guide in private meditation, or for membership classes.

\$9.95 each

\$7.50 each for six or more copies

SEX POSITIVE

A Gay Contribution to Sexual and Spiritual Union

by Larry J. Uhrig

**An Important Collector's Item,
Signed First Editions**

Chi Rho Press will be publishing a Second Edition of this landmark book, first published by Alyson Publications in 1986. While we are awaiting the manuscript of the Second Edition, we have obtained the entire remaining stock of the First Edition from Alyson and are making them available to you. The list price was \$6.95, but we are selling this valuable First Edition now at the special price of \$3.95. *And the author, the Rev. Larry Uhrig, pastor of MCC of Washington, D.C., has signed each of these First Edition copies as a special bonus!*

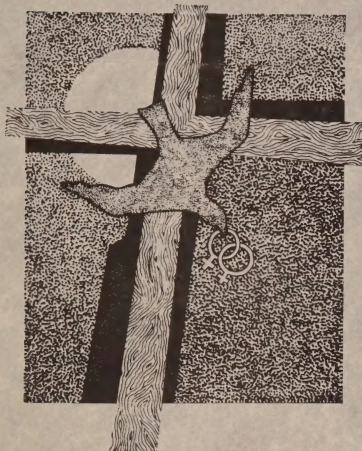
Why is the Church so often sex-negative? Is it possible to be both Christian and Gay? How can the sexual and spiritual drives within us be effectively united? How can we build a sex positive sexual ethic for our time? Rev. Uhrig offers a bold new approach to these questions.

Only \$3.95 each

Introducing *Chi Rho Cards*

A Line of Gay and Lesbian Greeting Cards from Chi Rho Press

With original artwork by talented New York artist Timothy Leetch, Chi Rho Cards are designed by and for the Lesbian and Gay community. Chi Rho Cards are printed on 100% recycled paper and are affordably priced, selling singly (for \$0.75 each), in packs of five of one design (for \$3.50), packs of ten of one design (for \$6.00), and in a special sample pack of two of each of the eight cards (for \$9.00).



Women's Relationship Card.

A religiously-themed card for a Lesbian couple, suitable for Holy Unions, Anniversaries, or just to celebrate their relationship. Inside: "God's Blessings on Your Relationship."

Men's Relationship Card.

A religiously-themed card for your favorite Gay male couple, suitable for Holy Unions, Anniversaries, or just to celebrate their relationship. Inside: "God's Blessings on Your Relationship."

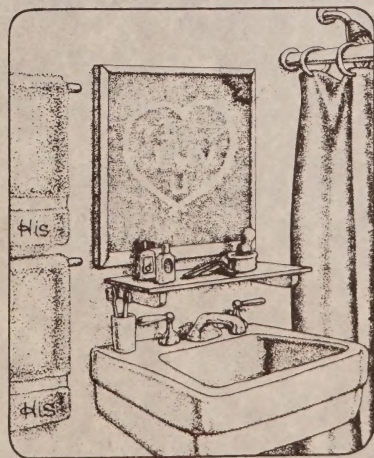
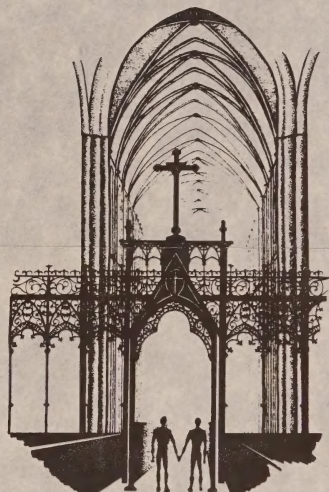


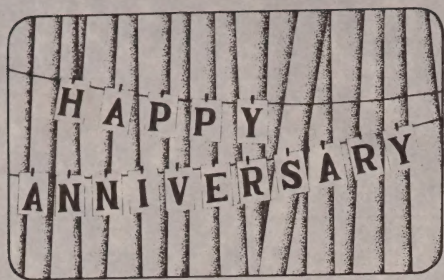
Lesbians' Anniversary Card.

Two women, very much in love, silhouetted on a seashore, make this a striking card for a Lesbian couple's anniversary. Inside: "Happy Anniversary!"

Gay Men's Anniversary Card.

An intimate scene in a Gay male couple's bathroom decorates our card to celebrate your favorite Gay couple's anniversary. Inside: "Happy Anniversary!"

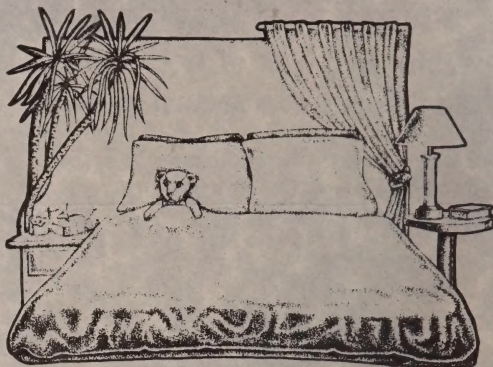




All Purpose Anniversary Card.

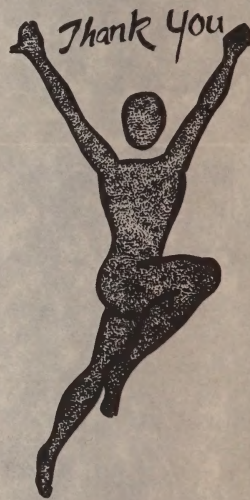
Our all purpose anniversary card is ideal to celebrate anniversaries of relationships, employment, sobriety, or any other occasion. Inside: blank, write your own specific message.

Get Well Card. Send our little bear to cheer up a friend who is ill, and speed their recovery. Inside: "I Can't Bear That You Are Ill. Get Well Soon."



Sympathy Card. An empty chair poignantly calls to mind the loss of a loved one, through death or divorce. Inside "Grieving With You at Your Loss. You are in my Prayers."

Thank You Card. Our leaping figure celebrates all that we have to be thankful for. Express your gratitude with this joyous card. Inside: blank, write your own specific message.



ORDER FORM

Choose from our eight *Chi Rho Cards*: **Women's Relationship, Men's Relationship, Lesbians' Anniversary, Gay Men's Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, and Thank You Cards.** Single cards are \$0.75 each, a pack of five of one card is \$3.50, a pack of ten of one card is \$6.00, and a special sample pack of two of each of the eight cards is \$9.00. Specify the quantity, which card(s) you want, and the price. Please make checks payable to **Chi Rho Press**, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898, USA. 301/670-1859.

_____ of _____	at \$ _____
_____ of _____	at \$ _____
_____ of _____	at \$ _____
_____ of _____	at \$ _____
_____ of _____	at \$ _____
_____ of _____	at \$ _____
_____ of _____	at \$ _____
_____ of _____	at \$ _____
_____ of _____	at \$ _____
_____ of _____	at \$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

(Make Checks Payable to **Chi Rho Press**):

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Mail to Chi Rho Press
P.O. Box 7864
Gaithersburg, MD 20898
301/670-1859